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A WORD TO OUR READERS.

HALF a year has elapsed since, at the commencement of the second volume of the *Literary World*, we told our readers, on this page, that "no effort would be spared to make this work, more, and still more worthy of their cordial and zealous support." How far we have been successful in that strenuous effort, it is impossible for us as yet to know. But taking the most moderate view of matters from the point we have now reached, we are persuaded that there are very many of our readers who will warmly sympathize with our gratification, at finding that a paper devoted purely to literary matters, without the attractions of political and commercial intelligence and standing entirely aloof from all partisanship, has been able to maintain itself for this space of time. Nor will it be deemed impertinent to mention here, that letters upon our table from some of the most distinguished friends of literature, have, ere we closed the volume which has just been completed, given us a cordial cheer for the past, and hearty wishes for the success of our future course. We have received many of these friendly missives from various parts of the country within the last few months. Individually we would look no further, care no further, than for a discriminating appreciation, a courteous sympathy like this. But there is another side to the matter.

A costly enterprise like that of the *Literary World*, is a business undertaking of business men, who have no share in the repute won in this or that circle by its literary upholders; but who must seek for their reward in a fair return for their capital and labors from the public at large. The early fate of several previous undertakings of the kind, induced many to look upon the present as a somewhat hazardous experiment. Still the parties interested in this Journal, determined to give the thing a fair trial; they knew that there was a feeling in the community spreading wider, and ripening day by day, that a paper of this character was becoming more and more necessary, and patience, industry, and impartial criticism, were alone required for its permanent establishment; the question of ultimate success being one of time merely. Upon a careful examination of the condition of the work, on commencing the second year of its existence, we have the satisfaction of announcing, that the support we have received amply justifies us in continuing the paper; and that, accordingly, arrangements have been effected to that end. In stating this much, however, we wish it to be understood, that, though our subscription list is gradually increasing, it is not by any means so large as to render us indifferent to the active aid of our friends in promoting its circulation. We have done as well—better than we expected. But—with our ambition to improve the character of the work from additional resources—much of our future efficiency depends upon the prompt, substantial, and increased support, of all who are favorable to the *Literary World*. Indeed, we have no hesitation in saying, that

some well matured plans which we have long cherished, for adding essentially to its variety, must depend upon such increased support. Although far from approving the practice of addresses "to the public," "our subscribers," and so forth, yet the present occasion being the commencement of the second year of the *Literary World*, we have been advised that a few words concerning ourselves, would not be inappropriate; and as they are to be spoken, we have made them as above, in perfect frankness. And in the same spirit, we will add, that the conduct of such a work, necessarily divided as it is into departments, is infinitely laborious in a country where the concerns of literature are so widely (although thinly) spread, as in ours. The mere correspondence of the Publisher, or of the Editor, would be sufficient to monopolize the time of either; and they, as well as the capitalists interested in this enterprise, have both, while working each in his respective sphere, yet to look for future success to remunerate them for their extra labor.

Nor does the reward of a just pride lie less in a solid business prosperity than in words of fair approval. The poet and philosopher who write merely for fame, are not less degraded than those who write merely for lucre. It is the True and the Good, *not the reputation of them*—which stirs the soul of the true artist in letters; and Fame and Profit are indifferently valuable to him, as the only tangible tests in his day and generation, that his utterances are not idle. When society invents a different barometer to gauge its sensibilities, writers and publishers will probably conform to the improved social mechanism; but till then we must needs go by the old standard. Success—business success, is in an American community the inexorable touchstone of merit in every undertaking. And if a man should publish another *Paradise Lost* in numbers, which would not sell, he would lose among us in personal respectability, for throwing himself away on an empty enterprise.

"That Milton (quoth a shrewd spirit from Wall street), that John Milton was a smartish man, but he showed a great want of practical sense, in giving so much time to a book which it seems, after all, the public did not want."

Now, we do not agree so entirely with this liberal sentiment, as to think that the Bard should have withheld his immortal work till "public opinion," in Addison's time, was ready for it; but Tonson, the publisher, might have thought so till he got back his ten pounds paid for the copyright! We are determined, then, worthy readers, that the *Literary World* shall "go ahead." We are determined that "Public Opinion" does ask precisely for such a journal as we give to the public. We know, indeed, that it must have been asking (albeit in a low and modest tone), asking everywhere for such a journal throughout the past year—and we would here encourage that shy voice to speak up confidently for the coming year. Let but each staunch and true friend of our journal whisper to his diffident neighbor some words of re-assurance to make his literary

wants known to us like a man, and the "World" shall straightway be spread on his table before him.

Reviews.

A Treatise on the Law of Copyright in Books, Dramatic and Musical Compositions, Letters, and other Manuscripts, Engravings and Sculpture, as enacted and administered in England and America; with some Notices of the History of Literary Property. By George Ticknor Curtis, Counsellor at Law. One vol. 8vo., pp. 450. Boston: Little & Brown; London: Maxwell & Son.

In a number of the *London Athenæum*, received by a late arrival, we find a paragraph from "The *Literary World*" in relation to the ingenious movement of a legal gentleman in this city, in reference to the copyright question, copied and noted as an affair of happy augury. The *Athenæum* will ere this have learned that the negotiation which has been pending since the appearance of the copyright article in the October number of *Blackwood* between the Edinburgh proprietors by their attorney, John Jay, Esq., of this city, and Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co., the republishers, has resulted in an amicable arrangement. "By this arrangement" (says the publisher's notice) "the reprint established on a legitimate basis will be continued in its complete and unimpaired form, and an early copy furnished to Messrs. Scott, so as to enable them to bring out the Magazine at New York at about the same time it will appear in Edinburgh and London."

This arrangement, as well from the results to American readers as from the copyright principle in which it originated, will excite equal interest on both sides the Atlantic. Would that the same tact displayed in thus successfully presenting the question in a new form, could introduce the principles involved in that question to the knowledge of the American public at large!

We can at present think of no better mode of effecting this publicity, and making men reflect upon the nature of Literary Property, than a suit at law instituted by some author of an original work, for which he shall *not* have taken out a copyright, against a republisher of his book. To apply this: in common equity we might as well insist that all land which the proprietor had not enclosed in a ring fence was a common, as to take possession of a man's book because he had not fenced it in with a certificate from the clerk of the district court. Let, then, the common law right of a citizen to the fruits of his brain-labors, and the exclusive control and management thereof, be once settled; let the work of the head be raised to the same consideration with the toil of the hands, and the necessary statute laws (placing literary property upon the same basis as other property-interests of society) will follow this new development of civilization. The universal principle of such development is of older date in this country than most people are aware

of; it being actually planted in Massachusetts as soon as our National Independence was accomplished. Hear the following preamble to a bill passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts in March, 1783:—

"Whereas the improvement of knowledge, the progress of civilization, the public weal of the community, and the advancement of human happiness, greatly depend on the efforts of learned and ingenious persons in the various arts and sciences: As the principal encouragement such persons can have to make great and beneficial exertions of this nature must exist in the legal security of the fruits of their study and industry to themselves; and as such security is one of the natural rights of all men, there being no property more peculiarly a man's own than that which is produced by the labor of his mind: therefore, to encourage learned and ingenious persons to write useful books for the benefit of mankind, Be it enacted," &c.

Such was the doctrine promulgated sixty-four years ago, from the highest political source, in Massachusetts; yet we wise people of this progressive generation, who insist that morals keep pace with railroads, are still discussing the very existence of such a property as is here recognised by the men of two generations since, as the highest kind of property! Mr. Curtis's argument upon this point seems to us irrefragable, and we quote it at length; because it seems to us that the point set forth by the Legislature of Massachusetts, being once fully established in men's minds, international copyright must follow as a matter of course between all civilized, or partially civilized nations.

"The painter, who spreads upon canvas the immortal conceptions of genius, does not ordinarily intend to be the sole beholder of the images which he thus creates. The grandeur and loveliness, to which he has given outward form, he places before the eyes of others, in order, expressly, that they may fully appropriate into their own intellectual perceptions the ideas which he has embodied. In like manner, the author who writes and publishes, writes and publishes that he may be read—that other men may absorb into their own intellectual natures the thoughts which have had their birth in his reason or imagination, making them part and parcel of their own minds.

"But it does not follow, because this is one of the objects of the painter or the author, in the exercise of their respective arts, that there may not be another purpose collateral to this, and in all respects consistent with it. It may be the purpose of both the painter and the poet, while they delight or instruct mankind, to receive a direct compensation for the pleasure or instruction which they impart; and the question is, whether there is any right, by the exercise of which they can make this purpose effectual; or, in other terms, whether there is anything to which the compensation can be made to attach.

"The right to multiply copies of what is written or printed, and to take therefor whatever other possession mankind are willing to give in exchange, constitutes the whole claim of literary property. This claim leaves wholly undisturbed the opportunity of every reader to make an intellectual appropriation of the ideas suggested to him by the characters which he purchases; it goes no further than to assert an exclusive right to the profits which may be derived from the production of successive copies of the characters which, in a particular combination, represent a set of intellectual ideas. This right is to be derived, if at all, from the original, exclusive invention and possession by the author of the ideas themselves, and of the combination of characters which exhibits those ideas. If this right can be distinctly traced to original possession and invention, and if the exercise of the right involves the general attributes which belong to property, there is no reason why it

should not be placed among the rights of property.

"The author of every original literary composition creates both the ideas and the particular combination of characters which represent those ideas upon paper. He is therefore an inventor in two senses; and he has the exclusive possession, before publication, of his invention. Every one may use the elemental characters of which the original author makes use, in other combinations, but if any one uses them in the same precise combination, he exhibits necessarily the ideas of the original author. The two subjects of the invention are therefore inseparably interwoven, and when we contemplate them in their blended condition upon the written or printed page, they present to the mind the idea of one creation or invention only. Considered, however, with reference to its component parts, this invention consists of distinct creations, the ideas themselves and the combination of characters which exhibit those ideas to the eye. Both are new, both have never existed before, and both are capable of being retained in the exclusive possession of the original inventor.

"The author, then, has in his possession a valuable invention, which he may withhold or impart to others at his pleasure. His dominion over his written composition is perfect, since it is founded both in occupancy or possession, and in invention or creation. No title can be more complete than this.

"From this full and complete title flows the right to annex conditions to the transfer of such a written composition, when the author chooses to impart the possession of it to others. It cannot be doubted that this right is inherent in every possession vested in an individual by the rules of natural or positive law. It enables the owner of a literary composition to declare the purposes for which he grants it to others, in the same manner as it enables the owner of a piece of merchandise to declare that he grants the full property, or only a qualified use thereof, when he gives the possession of it to another. In both cases, the principles of justice require that this right of the original owner should be respected in the same manner as his original possession; for if it would be a violation of justice to deprive him of all his rights, when he has reserved them all, it is equally so to deprive him of a part of them, which he reserved, when he granted another part.

"The right of literary property commences, therefore, from a full and exclusive intellectual possession of his ideas, by the author, coupled with the physical possession of the combination of characters representing those ideas, which he has traced upon paper or other material. As soon as publication takes place, it is no longer his object or intention to retain to himself the intellectual appropriation and enjoyment of the ideas themselves. What he does seek to reserve is, the exclusive multiplication of copies of that particular combination of characters, which exhibits to the eye of another the ideas that he intends shall be received. His power to do this depends upon his exclusive title to his invention, and upon the fact that each copy constitutes a valuable commodity, which he can exchange for other possessions.

"The author's exclusive title is not only theoretically perfect, but it is practically acknowledged by mankind, since in every civilized society men are willing to give him valuable possessions in exchange for the opportunity to read what he has written. This opportunity men will purchase, if they cannot have it without purchase. It is in the power of the author to say that they must purchase it, because he is the absolute owner of the copy which they desire to peruse. In the contract of sale which thus takes place, the owner of the literary composition may, of course, annex to the transfer any conditions that he pleases; and the question therefore next arises, whether he does not tacitly annex the condition, that other copies shall not be multiplied from the copy that he sells,

and whether the purchaser does not take the copy burdened with this restriction.

"The fair construction of a contract of sale requires, that the implied rights, which are supposed to be conferred by the seller upon the purchaser, should be determined by the apparent objects of the sale, and the price paid for the thing, when there are no express stipulations made. The delivery of a piece of merchandise for a price ordinarily held to be the measure of value for all the rights in it enjoyed by the owner, implies that the full right of property passes, including the right to use the thing in every form of which it is capable. But if A is found to have in his possession a chattel formerly known to belong to B, and the consideration paid by A is sufficient only to cover the value of the possession for a restricted use, and is far less than the full value of the entire and absolute dominion over the chattel, a fair presumption arises in natural equity, that the parties contemplated in the transaction the sale and purchase of a right to use the chattel for a limited purpose.

"When the purchaser of a single copy of a book pays for it whatever may be the current price set by the author, if he can, by the rules of natural law, be supposed to acquire thereby all the uses of which the copy is capable, including the faculty of indefinite multiplication, he purchases for a grossly inadequate consideration what is perhaps a mine of wealth. The profits which may be derived from the indefinite multiplication of copies justly belong to some one. The author has created the opportunity of reaping them, and is the sole owner of the original copy from which all others must be taken. This opportunity or faculty of receiving what the public will certainly and freely give, in exchange for copies of a literary production, is therefore a franchise to which no one can show so good a title as the author, who has created it. To hold that he intends to sell it, when he parts with a single copy of his composition for a price implying, if it implies anything, a reservation of it, is wholly inconsistent with the rules of natural justice.

But there is still another proof that the author reserves to himself the sole right of multiplying copies of his works, when he exposes single copies to sale. The object and purpose of publication are to put into the hands of the purchaser of a copy the means of becoming acquainted with the author's thoughts. What proof is there that the author contemplates anything more? If it is supposed that he intends to forego the profits which may be derived from his work, then the consequence also follows that he intends to abandon to others the reproduction of copies, without exercising any care for his own reputation, or any supervision over the manner in which the copies shall be produced. If this last supposition prevails, then the author himself defeats the object of publication, since he cannot make it certain to the reader or himself, that his thoughts will continue to be accurately represented. But the interests of the author are far too great to admit of any mere hypothesis as to his intentions, inconsistent with those interests. If he has not expressly or by necessary implication granted or abandoned his rights, it must be presumed that he has reserved them to himself, since it is not ordinarily consistent with human motives, for men to throw away vast interests, which touch both their fortunes and their fame."

The foregoing is extracted from the introduction to this well-arranged and well-digested volume. In illustrating the doctrine thus laid down, Mr. Curtis has displayed great fairness in presenting the views of its opponents. Indeed, our legal friends will find in this volume a mass of judicial information upon the whole subject, which will astonish minds of less research. We rejoice that an accomplished American jurist has at last taken the whole matter thoroughly in hand, and devoted his well-trained abilities to its investigation, with

an efficiency which must place his name hereafter with that of TALFOURD, among the benefactors of literature and civilization.

According to Mr. Curtis's most interesting history of Literary Property in England, the rights of literary property have existed and been recognised at common law since the introduction of Printing into England. He offers the most ample citations to prove this fact, showing thereby a sense of natural justice existing among the people, far in advance of their legislation. In England, truths work slowly up to high places. In this country, the popular conviction on such a subject would instantly influence legislation. The declamatory sophistries of Lord Camden could never here have overruled Milton's emphatic prayer for the right of an author's control over his own work, "which God forbid should be gainsaid." But the great difficulty here is to get the people sufficiently interested in the question to make them study its merits understandingly. The cant about "cheap literature" which hoodwinked them for a while, no longer, indeed, takes in any but the most irreclaimably stupid. Still, the merits of that question which, in the upper classes of England, has taken from the days of Addison to those of Wordsworth, to work themselves free from irrelevant issues, will require some time to be fairly comprehended by the masses of America; amid whom they are inwoven with still other issues, peculiar to this country, and tending not less than the condition of things elsewhere, to blind and pervert the true sense of justice. A single illustrative case of grievous injury to a FELLOW MAN like the following, so eloquently put by Talfourd, would go further among our sympathetic people, than a host of arguments.

"Let us suppose an author, of true original genius, disgusted with the inane phraseology which had usurped the place of poetry, had devoted himself from youth to its service; disdaining the gauds which attract the careless, and unskilled in the moving accidents of fortune—not seeking his triumph in the tempest of the passions, but in the serenity which lies above them,—whose works shall be scoffed at—whose name made a by-word—and yet who shall persevere in his high and holy course, gradually impressing thoughtful minds with the sense of truth made visible in the severest forms of beauty, until he shall create the taste by which he shall be appreciated—influence, one after another, the master spirits of his age—be felt pervading every part of the national literature, softening, raising, and enriching it; and when at last he shall find his confidence in his own aspirations justified, and the name which once was the scorn admitted to be the glory of his age—he shall look forward to the close of his earthly career, as the event that shall consecrate his fame and deprive his children of the opening harvest he is beginning to reap. As soon as his copyright becomes valuable, it is gone! This is no imaginary case—I refer to one who 'in this setting part of time' has opened a vein of the deepest sentiment and thought before unknown—who has supplied the noblest antidote to the freezing effects of the scientific spirit of the age—who, while he has detected that poetry which is the essence of the greatest things, has cast a glory around the lowliest conditions of humanity, and traced out the subtle links by which they are connected with the highest—of one whose name will now find an echo, not only in the heart of the secluded student, but in that of the busiest of those who are fevered by political controversy—of William Wordsworth. Ought we not to requite such a poet, while yet we may, for the injustice of our boyhood! For those works which are now insensibly quoted by our most popular writers, the spirit of which now mingles with our intellectual atmosphere, he probably has not received through

the long life he has devoted to his art, until lately, as much as the same labor, with moderate talent, might justly produce in a single year. Shall the law, whose term has been amply sufficient to his scorers, now afford him no protection, because he has outlasted their scoffs—because his fame has been fostered amidst the storms, and is now the growth of years?"

We have put the *hardship* of this case as that of a "fellow-man," instead of holding it up as an instance of popular baseness towards a great poet! Let the man who would follow out the illustration we would suggest, imagine the author referred to, still scouted at as ever, in his own country, while of universal acceptance in this country; and let the American reader meet that poor and home-derided individual whom he himself acknowledged as the best enricher of his own mind, would there be no feeling of positive indebtedness towards that man? Would not the American feel that out of the three dimes he had paid some steamboat pedlar for that lonely foreigner's book, the foreigner himself ought to have had one? Would he not be disposed to "lend a hand" to get him half a dime's worth?

Perhaps not!

Very well, then (if the thing were practicable), would he sell out the satisfaction and improvement he himself has derived from that man's labors, for five hundred dimes?

Why, if Walter Scott had come in possession of Rothschild's wealth ere he died, he never could have bought back the fund of gratification diffused by one of his novels, if his readers in this country were able to sell it, and ever so willing to put it in market at their own lowest valuation. We wreckers have plundered the glorious caraval as we chose, and lent no hand to lift her off the strand. Are we to go on thus plundering for ever? The seaman may plant himself, pistol in hand, in the gangway, and shoot the first wrecker who drives his boat-hook into the rich bale that is toppling from the deck whose bulwarks are swept away. The swineherd of the prairie will pursue, with unerring rifle, the squatter who fastens upon one of his herd—a herd uncounted, and roving through a wilderness. But the fellow who, with bowie knife or revolver, ventures to protect his uncounted books in the wilderness of society, would soon find the difference between books and porkers, in the estimation of mankind. Yet we should not be at all surprised, if some eccentric western genius should some day bring the whole question of copyright down to fundamental principles, by protecting the fruits of his brain in the same summary manner as he would any other property. The declaration of such a fighting genius, on the fly-leaf of a work, that he meant so to protect it, would, with many, tell more effectually than the note of the District Clerk, in the same place. Had fighting Fitzgerald, for instance, put forth his memoirs with such an imprimatur, who would have ventured to pirate them? The supposition of such a case seems absurd, but some form of lynch-law will undoubtedly develop itself, where there is no other law. Let some wild Missourian be enjoying ten thousand a year, from some work produced by his father, and let the operation of an unjust law take that righteous property from him, and he will most assuredly battle for it "on his own hook." The man will feel that it is tyrannical to insist that he must only enjoy a fourteen years' lease of the estate which his father created out of nothing—while his neighbor can transmit to whom he pleases the farm which his father paid for out of the timber which grew upon it.

"We (he would say) brought the one piece of property into the world, which the public now would take from us, while *they* who are protected in the enjoyment of their landed estate, found that property already existing here as a part of the common stock."

Now if it be an outrage to take from this American author, or heir of an author, that which is his rightful heritage, is it less of an outrage to take it from the stranger? And do we think that as a nation we can go on perpetrating that outrage with impunity? Only look to the practical action of this blind injustice among ourselves! What publisher will pay for an American work upon a given theme, when he can have an English work on the same theme for nothing? Look then to your so called "literature" and see what it is? Why, as a people, you have no utterance, and the greater part of your thinking, upon paper, is done for you by foreign writers on the other side of the Atlantic!

It is absurd to lay the odium of this business upon the American bookseller. It is the American people at large, who, in their blindness, thus embrace a colonial vassalage to the intellect of Europe. It is their semi-civilized representatives in Congress, who would still keep the mind of the country in a provincial condition at the expense of common honesty—plundering Englishmen for the sake of Anglifying Americans. And they they call "the dissemination of cheap knowledge!" We have no patience with the stolid stupidity and candle-end-saving meanness of our countrymen upon this subject. Why can they not see that no civilized people can be a nation without a literature, and that no true and manly literature can develop itself in a nation which attempts to thrive intellectually by sponging upon the brains of foreigners, and filching Thought from strangers, because it is cheaper than originating it among ourselves? Surely, the most complete dullard can understand that we might as well have all our schools placed in England, as have all our books written there; yet the mass of our books will be thus written until we have an international copyright.

We cannot take leave of the valuable volume before us, without a hearty tribute to the elegant style in which the Boston publishers have sent it forth.

A Jar of Honey from Mount Hybla; or Sweets from Sicily in particular, and Pastoral Poetry in General. By Leigh Hunt. With twenty fine Illustrations, by Richard Doyle.

A CHARMING book; and such as we are inclined to think no living English writer but Hunt could have created. It is created out of old materials, and yet with such a fresh air upon it as makes it look like something altogether new. It displays the best qualities of its author: elegance, geniality, picturesque scholarship, good feeling, and graceful literary art.

The book is built up, like some of Hunt's finest essays, out of almost nothing; but out of which, so many delicate and rare attractions arise as to compose the book for him.

Hunt had never been in Sicily, but has done his work far better than most who have visited that terrestrial paradise. By the power of imagination, he has seen through the eyes of travellers a fairer region than they probably saw themselves, for he has idealized and refined upon what they describe.

The occasion of writing the book (originally a series of magazine papers) arose from the seeing a Jar of Sicilian Honey in a shop window, which led him to think of the world of

poetical associations connected with that Island: its romantic history, rich Heathen mythology, magnificent scenery, heavenly climate, and a hundred other delightful topics. These are unfolded with artistic skill, and developed with felicity and grace.

Elegant local pictures, with acute and sympathetic literary criticism, make up the body of the book, in which there are also some delicate sentimental effusions, and a most delectable style. There are some fine specimens of Hunt's talent of story telling, which we shall try to make room for. They are as fresh and agreeable as the airy narratives of the Poet's early manhood.

The whole history of Pastoral Poetry is reviewed, from the Greek Theocritus down to the "jovial Sicilian poet," Meli, "one of the most universal of men"—including the finest writers in that department, Italian, Scotch, and English.

Each chapter is a distinct essay; those on Mount Etna and Bees are as near perfection, in their way, as any pieces of writing we have seen for many a day. They combine the merits of the styles so generally considered opposite, the classical and the romantic.

Hunt vindicates himself fully in this book from the trite imputation of decay of faculties, &c. He is now in years (past his grand climacteric) an old man, but writes with all the spirit and vivacity of mature intellect.

We regretted, lately, seeing a slur upon this fine writer,

Wit, Poet, Proseman, Party Man, Translator,

in the last number of the North American Review, in a most readable and discriminating review of Sheridan. In this paper, the critic takes occasion to disparage the characteristic qualities of our author, which he has displayed anytime during the last thirty-odd years, in these terms: "the usual languid jauntiness of style." A happy collection of terms, but unjust, as this very book in three pages out of four disproves. "Cant of good feeling and conceit of heartiness." If it were cant, which we do not allow, such cant is better than the profession or practice of heartless indifference, too common. But this is a frequent objection, caught from Rochefoucault, and others, who teach that "pity is refined self-love," &c., certainly a better kind of self-love than that of those who love *only* themselves. The most odious of all cant is, according to Sterne, the cant of criticism. Hunt's "sparkling flatness of style," as epigrammatic as the former criticism was unjust, is put forth with the other qualities enumerated, as constituting the "intellectual capital of his sentimental old age." An unkind remark, and proving the carelessness of the critic, who will find, from the outset, that Hunt has always been a chirping, kind-hearted, gossiping good fellow; with sometimes a little mawkishness, but nothing in the balance in comparison with his exuberant fine qualities and genial traits; but as writer and man, Hazlitt's portrait of him years ago (*Spirit of the Age*) determines that point. One omission we cannot account for, and that is that the elegant book of Mr. Tuckerman, full of graceful sentiment, pleasing description, and one of the best written books we can at present remember to have seen produced on the subject, is not alluded to. We are pretty confident it was reprinted in London, and it has been printed in Canada, but somehow appears to have escaped Hunt. We know of no American writer who could do more ample justice to this very subject than the American Poet, who is familiar with the Island, with all its wealth of poetry, history,

and mythology. And we beg leave to suggest to him, the propriety of giving the American public a taste of his quality on this very subject. Poets should review each other to prevent the harsh discords of criticism.

We present our readers with the following delightful foretaste of the work:—

A STORY OF MOUNT ETNA.

"Giuseppe, a young vine-grower in a village at the foot of the mountains looking towards Messina, was in love with Maria, the daughter of the richest bee-master of the place; and his affection, to the great displeasure of the father, was returned. The old man, though he had encouraged him at first, wished her to marry a young profligate in the city, because the latter was richer and of a higher stock; but the girl had a great deal of good sense as well as feeling, and the father was puzzled how to separate them, the families having been long acquainted. He did everything in his power to render the visits of the lover uncomfortable to both parties; but as they saw through his object, and love can endure a great deal, he at length thought himself compelled to make use of insult. Contriving, therefore, one day to proceed from one mortifying word to another, he took upon him, as if in right of offence, to anticipate his daughter's attention to the parting guest, and show him out of the door himself, adding a broad hint that it might be as well if he did not return very soon.—'Perhaps, Signor Antonio,' said the youth, piqued at last to say something harsh himself, 'you do not wish the son of your old friend to return at all.'—'Perhaps not,' said the bee-master.—'What,' said the poor lad, losing all the courage of his anger in the terrible thought of his never having any more of those beautiful lettings out of the door by Maria,—'what! do you mean to say I may not hope to be invited again, even by yourself?—that you yourself will never again invite me, or come to see me?'—'Oh, we shall all come, of course, to the great Signor Giuseppe,' said the old man, looking scornful,—'all cap in hand.'—'Nay, nay,' returned Giuseppe, in a tone of propitiation; 'I'll wait till you do me the favor to look in some morning, in the old way, and have a chat about the French: and perhaps,' added he, blushing, 'you will then bring Maria with you, as you used to do; and I won't attempt to see her till then.'—'Oh, we'll all come, of course,' said Antonio, impatiently, 'cat, dog, and all; and when we do,' added he, in a very significant tone, 'you may come again yourself.'—Giuseppe tried to laugh at this jest, and thus still propitiate him; but the old man, hastening to shut the door, angrily cried, 'Aye, cat, dog, and all, and the cottage besides, with Maria's dowry along with it; and then you may come again, and not till then.' And so saying, he banged the door, and giving a furious look at poor Maria, went into another room to scrawl a note to the young citizen. The young citizen came in vain, and Antonio grew sulkier and angrier every day, till at last he turned his latter jest into a vow; exclaiming with an oath, that Giuseppe should never have his daughter, till he (the father), daughter, dog, cat, cottage, bee-hives, and all, with her dowry of almond-trees to boot, set out some fine morning to beg the young vine-dresser to accept them. Poor Maria grew thin and pale, and Giuseppe looked little better, turning all his wonted jests into sighs, and often interrupting his work to sit and look towards the said almond-trees, which formed a beautiful clump on an ascent upon the other side of the glen, sheltering the best of Antonio's bee-hives, and composing a pretty dowry for the pretty Maria, which the father longed to see in the possession of the flashy young citizen. One morning, after a very sultry night, as the poor youth sat endeavoring to catch a glimpse of her in this direction, he observed that the clouds gathered in a very unusual manner over the country, and then hung low in the air, heavy and immoveable. Towards Messina the sky

looked so red, that at first he thought the city on fire, till an unusual heat affecting him, and a smell of sulphur arising, and the little river at his feet assuming a tinge of a muddy ash color, he knew that some convulsion of the earth was at hand. His first impulse was a wish to cross the ford, and, with mixed anguish and delight, to find himself again in the cottage of Antonio, giving the father and daughter all the help in his power. A tremendous burst of thunder and lightning startled him for a moment; but he was proceeding to cross, when his ears tingled, his head turned giddy, and while the earth heaved beneath his feet, he saw the opposite side of the glen lifted up with a horrible deafening noise, and then the cottage itself, with all around it, cast, as he thought, to the ground, and buried for ever. The sturdy youth, for the first time in his life, fainted away. When his senses returned, he found himself pitched back into his own premises, but not injured, the blow having been broken by the vines. But on looking in horror towards the site of the cottage up the hill, what did he see there? or rather, what did he *not* see there? And what *did* he see, forming a new mound, furlongs down the side of the hill, almost at the bottom of the glen, and in his own homestead? Antonio's cottage:—Antonio's cottage, with the almond-trees and the bee-hives and the very cat and dog and the old man himself and the daughter (both senseless), all come, as if, in the father's words, to beg him to accept them! Such awful pleasures, so to speak, sometimes take place in the middle of Nature's deepest tragedies, and such exquisite good may spring out of evil. For it was so in the end, if not in the intention. The old man (who, together with his daughter, had only been stunned by terror) was superstitiously frightened by the dreadful circumstance, if not affectionately moved by the attentions of the son of his old friend, and the delight and transport of his child. Besides, though the cottage and the almond-trees and the bee-hives had all come miraculously safe down the hill (a phenomenon which has frequently occurred in these extraordinary *landships*), the flower gardens, on which his bees fed, were almost all destroyed; his property was lessened, his pride lowered; and when the convulsion was well over, and the guitars were again playing in the valley, he consented to become the inmate, for life, of the cottage of the enchanted couple."

We may hereafter give some further extracts from the body of the work; meanwhile, we transcribe the following Leigh Huntish passages from the Preface, which is pithily entitled "Christmas and Italy; or, A Modest Essay, showing the extreme fitness of this book for the Season."

"It is true, that besides the good old Christmas times, there are such things as good *new* Christmas times; and in respect to the great object of both, we are heartily of opinion that the latter far surpasses the former, and that no literary fare for the season ever came up to the substantial as well as exquisite food set forth for us in the pages of 'Chimes' and 'Christmas Carols.' They are nectar and ambrosia for the spirit in the humblest shapes of the flesh. They are the sermons of the morning rescued from the dead letter of mere assent and custom, reproduced with all the allurements of wit and pathos, and made contributory to the greatest practical workings of the time. And the time has no greater glory than the fact of the conversion of satire itself to a beneficent spirit, which (with a few occasional deviations, that must be pardoned for habit's sake) it obviously and largely possesses, and which it will complete ere long, by an impartiality towards every rank and description of men."

"Christmas amusements of old were a mixture of poetry, piety, revelry, superstition, story-telling, and masquing, particularly Pagan and Arcadian masquing; and here you have them all. But they were not confined to these. At no time

does talk run freer on all subjects than at Christmas, because at no time are the animal spirits set more at liberty; and hence no topic is baulked if it come uppermost, any more than it is in these pages. And as to the foreign part of our title, when Shakspeare wrote his *Winter's Tale* (and a *Winter's Tale* was emphatically a Christmas Tale), he laid the scenes of it in the same country as our little Jar. Shakspeare's Christmas Tale is a Sicilian Tale, and it presents the same mixture as we do, of old Sicilian story and English pastoral. To be exclusively English was never the contemplation of any Christmas talk. No later than the other day, Coleridge wrote a play in professed imitation of the *Winter's Tale*. He calls it 'Zapolya, a Christmas Tale,' and the scene is laid in Illyria; which, by the way, is that of Shakspeare's *Twelfth-Night*, another play of the season, for *Twelfth Night* is included in Christmas. Indeed, if you would banish foreign matters from Christmas, you must banish Christmas itself. You must sweep away mince-pies, with their currants from Greece, their cloves and mace from the Spice Islands, and their peel of lemon from Sicily. You must abolish your plum-pudding with its raisins from Malaga, your boar's head from Germany, chestnuts from Spain and France, oranges from Portugal, wines every one of them, except British, all your hot pickles, all your teas and coffees, your very twelfth-cake, with its sugar; nay, even the name of the season, to say nothing of things too reverend to be specified. You would not have a mahogany table to dine upon. Sixpence would not be left you to buy a cigar, nor a cigar to be bought; and if you wished to console yourself with singing a carol, ten to one but the tune would be taken out of your mouth, being found to belong to Pergolesi or Palestrina, or some other Italian Inventor of the phrases of melody.

Italian! Why Italy will be talked about this Christmas at half the tables in England, with the Pope and Mr. Cobden at its head; and we think we see our little Blue Jar the more valued accordingly. Mr. Cobden has returned from Italy, brimful, as such a man ought to be, of its beauties and merits. He himself will talk plentifully about it; and others will talk, because he has talked already. The Duke of Devonshire has been in Italy. Lord John has an Envoy in Italy. Every reigning circle of private and public life has had its representative visitor in that country. Everybody, indeed, may be said to visit it every day in the newspapers, to see how the Pope and Reform are going on; poor Sicily has been in trouble with its 'Captain Romeo' (strange link of time past and present); and Mr. Cobden has the magnanimity to express his regret, that he had not made himself a master, when he was young, of the language of the beautiful peninsula.

"There is not, we will venture to say, a single chapter of our Jar, which does not contain appropriate reading for Christmas.

"The first concerns the Arabian Nights; and every little boy knows that the Arabian Nights are reading for all seasons, particularly holidays.

"The second chapter is full of the Fairy Tales of Antiquity; things which people used to relate round their fires during the ancient Saturnalia, just as our ancestors used to do at Christmas, and as boys read them still. And the Saturnalia were not only, to the ancients, what the Christmas holidays are to us, but the veritable parents and progenitors of those holidays, as every antiquary knows. It is doubtful whether Macrobius, who wrote a 'Saturnalia,' or Christmas Holiday Book, of his time, was a Pagan or a Christian; but, at all events, his book is full of every kind of miscellaneous reading and gossiping from Scipio's Dream down to a gossiping anecdote and a disputed passage in Virgil. Such was the pastime, he tells us, of the best informed circles at Rome.

"Our third chapter contains, among other

Saturnalian subjects, the story of the truly Christmas-like personage, Gellias, one of the wittiest and most hospitable of entertainers, a noble-hearted merchant prince, who kept seven hundred gallons of wine in his house, and was famous for making his workmen happy.

"Our third and fourth chapters, besides some Saturnalian stories, include an account of an ancient holiday, full of gossip, and show, and leafy boughs, together with a vast deal of Pastoral,—a summer recollection to which Christmas has always been fond of reverting, at least in books and among the poets; probably on the principle of extremes meeting, and by a happy rule of contraries. It is observable how fond we are at Christmas of what our forefathers used to call 'greens,' that is to say, boughs and flowers and everything which can force the summer, as it were, to remain with us by our firesides.

"The sixth chapter is our beloved subject, the story of King Robert aforesaid.

"The seventh brings us, through Italian Pastoral, to the Christmas entertainment of our ancestors.

"In the eighth and ninth we are in the Old English Poetical Works. In the tenth at Mount Aetna with its stories. In the eleventh with Bees. In the twelfth with the musical services of the Church, with cheerful pieties of all sorts, and with the jovial Sicilian poet Meli, one of the most universal of men.

THE ELIXIR AND THE VIALS.

"Once on a time there was a dispute respecting the possession of a certain elixir, called by some Flower of Thorn, by others Spirit of Lily, by others Spirit of Love, and by others various other names not necessary to mention, but agreed by all to produce the most wonderful effects, on the mind, of peace and benevolence. The parties who laid claim to the glory and emoluments of this possession, said it was kept in a particular kind of vial distinguishable from every other, and belonging exclusively to one single proprietor; and each claimant declared, nay swore, that he was that one. Indeed, it was remarkable, that for persons valuing themselves on the possession of an essence, or spirit, producing such gentle effects, they were, most of them, wonderfully given to swearing, not hesitating to use the most extraordinary oaths, both in assertion of their own claims, and in condemnation of those of the rest. One person holding up his vial, which was a very pretty thing to look at, exclaimed that every man (including each other) might be—nay, was—(we do not like to repeat the word) who did not see plainly that that was the only Spirit. Another uttered the very same threats, though he held up a vial of totally different appearance. The case was the same with a third, a fourth, and a fifth, nay with a fiftieth. There was nothing to be seen but a flourishing of vials, and nothing to be heard but a storm of voices. At length, from words (as might be expected of such words) they proceeded to blows; and what was very astonishing, they were so moved and provoked out of their wits and sense as to convert their respective vials into weapons of offence, and so absolutely endeavor to fight it out with their fragile materials.

"The consequences may be guessed. Not only were heads broken, but the vials also; and not only did the spirit in the vials evaporate, but by the fury of the combatants, both before and after the breakage, it became manifest that no such thing as a spirit producing the effects they pretended had been in the vials at all.

"The scene ended with the laughter of the spectators, and worse consequences might have ensued but for the appearance of a third set of persons bringing forward another vial. It was totally unlike all the former, except in one part of it; and this part, which was of the real crystal which the others only pretended to be, was said to contain and did absolutely contain, the veritable peace-making elixir, as was proved by

a very simple but incontrovertible circumstance; namely, the peace-making itself. The proprietors neither swore, nor threatened, nor fought, nor tried to identify the vial with its contents. They proved the effect of the contents upon themselves by the friendliest behavior towards all parties present; and though they had a long and difficult task to induce their rivals to taste of it, yet no sooner had they done so, than the whole place became a scene of the most enchanting reasonableness and serenity. Everybody embraced his neighbor with the kindest words, and the combatants themselves did not scruple to wonder how they could have missed perceiving the presence of an odor so sweet, so undiluted, so unquestionable, so tranquillizing, and so divine.

"A certain bishop who lived some hundred years ago, and who was very unlike what is reported of her Majesty's new almoner; also very unlike the Christian bishops of old, before titles were invented for them; very unlike Fenelon too, who nevertheless had plenty of titles; very unlike St. Francis de Sales, who was for talking nothing but 'roses;' very unlike St. Vincent de Paul, who founded the Sisterhood of Charity; very unlike Rundle, who 'had a heart,' and Berkeley, who had 'every virtue under heaven,' and that other exquisite bishop (we blush to have forgotten his name), who was grieved to find that he had a hundred pounds at his bankers, when the season had been so bad for the poor;—this highly unressembling bishop, who, nevertheless, was like too many of his brethren,—that is to say, in times past (for there is no bishop now, at least in any quarter of England, who is not remarkable for meekness, and does not make a point of turning his right cheek to be smitten, the moment you have smitten his left);—this unepiscopal and yet not impossible bishop, we say, was once accosted, during a severe Christmas, by a parson-Adams kind of inferior clergyman, and told a long story of the wants of certain poor people, of whose cases his lordship was unaware. What the dialogue was, which led to the remark we are about to mention, the reporters of the circumstance do not appear to have ascertained; but it seems that the representations growing stronger and stronger on one side, and the determination to pay no attention to them acquiring proportionate vigor on the other, the clergyman was moved to tell the bishop, that his lordship did not understand his eleven commandments.

"'Eleven commandments!' cried the bishop; 'why, fellow, you are drunk. Who ever heard of an eleventh commandment? Depart, or you shall be put in the stocks.'

"'Put thine own drunken pride and cruelty in the stocks,' retorted the good priest, angered beyond his Christian patience, and preparing to return to the sufferers for whom he had pleaded in vain. 'I say there are eleven commandments, not ten, and that it were well for such flocks as you govern, if it were added, as it ought to be, to the others over the tables in church. Does your lordship remember—do you in fact know anything at all of Him who came on earth to do good to the poor and woful, and who said, 'Behold I give unto you a new commandment, LOVE ONE ANOTHER.'

COMING EVENTS.—The *Carlsruhe Gazette*, of the 20th instant, contains the following extraordinary statement, on the authority of a person said to be present on the occasion:—"During the manoeuvres of the Russian army at Winnica, the Emperor of Russia addressed his generals as follows:—'What we are now practising is mere theory, but in two years I shall lead this army into other countries and to a field of glory.' We are assured that the Emperor, addressing a general, said, 'You, general, shall command the advanced guard. I am not satisfied with my neighbors, and I must seek other allies.' This story will find very few believers.

Three Hours; or the Vigil of Love; and other Poems. By Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale. Philadelphia: Carey & Hart.

My Dreams. By Louisa S. McCord. Philadelphia: Carey & Hart.

THE number of American ladies who write poetry, bids fair soon to equal, if not surpass, that of the masculine bards. In addition to the distinguished galaxy who have already culminated in the literary firmament, nearly every day brings us the modest offerings of some new aspirant for the mingled wreath of bay and myrtle, which sits so gracefully on a girlish brow. The chivalric deference to the feelings of woman, which is such a prominent trait in the American character, has even melted the flinty soul of the unyielding critic, compelling him to a gentler courtesy when dealing with the frail spring-blossoms of their expanding minds; and that warm and enthusiastic homage which we spontaneously accord to genius in any shape (doubly so, when it is kindled on a shrine which we should else worship for its beauty) has encouraged the timid promptings of woman's mind, towards the utterance of her poet-gift. And, instead of wishing to check what some consider an alarming increase of literary effort, tending to the equalization of mental power, and consequently preventing any great original development, we are inclined to give it our support. By extending and fostering the growing taste for literature among the masses, it will in the end elevate the standard of popular criticism, and create an appreciation for the higher offsprings of genius. The women of our country have been the earliest and warmest patrons of its polite literature, and we are glad to see, in the kind welcome with which their own contributions to it are received, a recognition of this indebtedness, and a willingness to repay it by cordial and ready sympathy.

The first of the above volumes is the product of a pen, which has long ere this written itself into an honored place among our female authors. In the editorship of the *Lady's Book* (to the readers of which this neat volume is dedicated), Mrs. Hale has displayed literary abilities of a varied order. To a certain masculine vigor of thought, she unites much polish and grace of language, which is even more perceptible in her prose than her poetic writings. Her essays and critical writings bear the stamp of a clear and discriminating judgment, and the public is undoubtedly indebted to her connexion with various periodicals, for much assistance in the cultivation of a more refined literary taste. Various collections of her poetry have heretofore appeared, which are included in the present one—together with several unpublished poems. The first and longest, entitled "*Three Hours; or the Vigil of Love*," is an imaginative story in verse, the scene of which is laid in Massachusetts in the days of the Pilgrims. The plot is exceedingly simple, and the poem derives its peculiar interest from the effective manner in which a particular mental condition is seized upon and wrought out. The awful dread of the Lady, watching at midnight for her husband's return, and the vividness with which the ghostly tales told her in childhood, reappear to her excited fancy, are described with much power. We remember a thrilling ballad by Lowell, which embodies the same feeling. The following passage, in which Mrs. Hale shadows forth some of the terrors which haunted the Lady's mind, excites in us something of that shudder of fear and delight, which we feel on reading William of Deloraine's disinterment of the Magic Book:—

"Once a holy man was set
Watching where the witches met!
Open Bible, naked sword—
And three candles on the board,—
There the godly man was set
Watching where the witches met;
Knowing well his dreadful doom,
Should they drive him from the room.

"The candles three were burning bright,
The sword was flashing back the light,
As it struck the deep midnight;
While the holy Book he read,
And all was still as are the dead.

Suddenly there came a roar
Like breakers on a rocky shore.
When the ocean's thundering boom
Knells the mariner to his tomb!
The good man felt the struggling strife,
As the ship went down with its load of life!
His seat was shaken by the roar,
And upward seemed to rise the floor!
While round and round, as eddies hurl,
The room and table seemed to whirl!
Yet still the holy Book he read,
And prayed for those who sail the sea.

"Then came a shrieking, wild and high,
As when flames are bursting nigh,
And their blood has stained the sky!
'Fly! fly! fly!' in a strangled cry,
Was hoarsely rattled on his ear—
While the crackling flames came near!
And still the holy Book he read,
And prayed for those where fires might be.

"And then appeared a sight of dread;
The roof was opened above his head—
He saw, in the far-off, dusky view,
A bloody hand—and an arm—come through!
The Lady seemed to see them too."

A peculiarity of this poem, which strikes us as a defect, resulting, perhaps, rather from haste in the execution than from original design, is the frequent and sudden change from the iambic to the anapestic measure. When such change is made (and the melody of *Christabel* has induced many to attempt it), it should never interfere abruptly with the rhythm, but rather conduct it by an almost imperceptible transition from line to line, varying in nice accordance with the subject. The power to make use of this modern license, is not to be attained without careful study and an intimate acquaintance with the rhythmic harmonies of language. Longfellow's "*Prelude*" is a fine instance of a successful combination of these two measures.

Among the minor poems in Mrs. Hale's volume, are many which have long and deservedly been favorites with the public. Among these we may mention "*The Light of Home*," "*The Two Maidens*," "*The Watcher*," &c., which are characterized by much sweetness and simplicity of feeling. But that which seems to us the finest piece in the book is the magnificent lyric entitled "*Iron*." For boldness and grandeur of imagery, as well as a lofty ringing sound in the words, well adapted to the subject, it is unequalled by any other production of the author:

IRON.

"Truth shall spring out of the earth."—PSALM LXXIX. 11.

"As, in lonely thought, I pondered
On the marvellous things of earth,
And, in fancy's dreaming, wondered
At their beauty, power, and worth,
Came, like words of prayer, the feeling—
Oh! that God would make me know,
Through the spirit's clear revealing—
What, of all his works below,
Is to man a boon the greatest,
Brightening on from age to age,
Serving truest, earliest, latest,
Through the world's long pilgrimage.

Soon vast mountains rose before me,
Shaggy, desolate, and lone,
Their scarred heads were threatening o'er me,
Their dark shadows round me thrown;
Then a voice, from out the mountains,
As an earthquake shook the ground,
And like frightened fawns the mountains,
Leaping, fled before the sound;
And the Anakim bowed lowly,
Quivering, aspen-like, with fear—
While the deep response came slowly,
Or it must have crushed mine ear!

'Iron! Iron! Iron!'—crashing,
Like the battle-axe and shield;
Or the sword on helmet clashing,
Through a bloody battle-field:
'Iron! Iron! Iron!'—rolling,
Like the far-off cannon's boom;
Or the death-knell, slowly tolling,
Through a dungeon's charnel gloom!
'Iron! Iron! Iron!'—swinging,
Like the summer winds at play;
Or as bells of Time were ringing
In the blest Millennial Day!

Then the clouds of ancient fable
Cleared away before mine eyes;
Truth could tread a footing stable
O'er the gulf of mysteries!
Words, the prophet bards had uttered,
Signs, the oracle foretold,
Spells, the weird-like Sibyl muttered,
Through the twilight days of old,
Rightly read, beneath the splendor,
Shining now on history's page,
All their faithful witness render—
All portend a better age.

Sisyphus, for ever toiling,
Was the type of toiling men,
While the stone of power, recoiling,
Crushed them back to earth again!
Stern Prometheus, bound and bleeding,
Imaged man in mental chain,
While the vultures, on him feeding,
Were the passions' vengeful reign;
Still a ray of mercy tarried
On the cloud, a white-winged dove,
For this mystic faith had married
Vulcan to the Queen of Love!

Rugged strength and radiant beauty—
These were one in nature's plan;
Humble toil and heavenward duty—
These will form the perfect man!
Darkly was this doctrine taught us
By the gods of heathendom;
But the living light was brought us,
When the gospel morn had come!
How the glorious change, expected,
Could be wrought, was then made free;
Of the earthly, when perfected,
Rugged Iron forms the key!

'Truth from out the earth shall flourish,'
This the Word of God makes known—
Thence are harvests men to nourish—
Thence let Iron's power be shown.
Of the swords, from slaughter gory
Ploughshares forge to break the soil;—
Then will Mind attain its glory,
Then will Labor reap the spoil,—
Error cease the soul to wilder,
Crime be checked by simple good,
As the little coral builder
Forces back the furious flood.

While our faith in good grows stronger,
Means of greater good increase;
Iron, slave of war no longer,
Leads the onward march of peace;
Still new modes of service finding,
Ocean, earth, and air it moves,
And the distant nations binding,
Like the kindred tie it proves;
With its Atlas-shoulder sharing
Loads of human toil and care;
On its wing of lightning bearing
Thought's swift mission through the air!

As the rivers, furthest flowing,
In the highest hills have birth;
As the banyan, broadest growing,
Oftenest bows its head to earth,—
So the noblest minds press onward,
Channels far of good to trace;
So the largest hearts bend downward,
Circling all the human race;
Thus, by Iron's aid, pursuing
Through the earth their plans of love,
Men our Father's will are doing,
Here, as angels do above!

"*My Dreams*," comes to us with a new name, but that of one who seems to have thought much and written much. In this collection of "*Dreams*," occupying somewhat more than two hundred pages, we find between forty and fifty poems, many of them of considerable length, and which appear to have been written with care and a large infusion of poetic feeling. But the author seems as yet to lack a certain discrimination with regard to the artistic execution of poetry, which prevents her from clothing many really beautiful thoughts in a worthy and appropriate form. In a word, her faculty of expression has not yet climbed to the level of her conceptions. The intense study, the careful labor, which is the necessary and unavoidable bridge between thought and language, she has yet to learn.

The "divine gift" was never given as a plaything; it is a delicate instrument, which cannot be wielded with a master's power, till the hand is trained and the mind schooled by long and patient experience. The effect of many of the poems before us, is marred by the entire change which is often introduced in the form of the stanza. This, though allowable in poetic narrative, and even in single poems, when two opposite thoughts or sensations are antithetically represented, cannot be introduced into common lyrical poetry, without destroying the unity of impression, which is an element so necessary to its beauty.

There is, nevertheless, much in this volume, to insure it a favorable reception with the public, and encourage the young poetess to more careful effort. We might mention, "The Voice of Years," as a poem filled with a lofty imaginative spirit, and free from the defect at which we have just hinted. We conclude by quoting a wild and spirited specimen of the author's powers, not equal, indeed, to the poem first-mentioned, but better adapted to the space of our columns:—

SPIRIT OF THE STORM.

"WILD spirit of the storm, who rid'st the blast,
And in the growling thunder speak'st thy rage,
Would I could soar with thee!
Untamed, unfettered, roaming through the vast
Expanse of universe from age to age,
'Tis thine, thine! to be free!
'Tis mine, to lie, and grovel in the dust,
And wonder at thy might,
And in admiring amazement lost,
To tremble at the terrors of thy fearful night.

"But no! with thee my spirit longs to rise,
It doth not tremble.—Genius of the storm!
Thou art but tameless, wild
As I would be, could I enfranchise
My chained being,—cast off the grovelling worm—
Nature's untamed storm child.
With thee the whirlwind in its might I'd ride,
Revel in the howling blast,
Play with the forked lightnings, and deride
The timorous world, by thee with weary fear harassed.

"Borne on the hurricane's extended wing,
And in the whirlwind sweeping over earth—
Then in the billowy deep,
To wake the voice of Discord, mastering
The ocean's stillness, to riot giving birth
In those still caves, where sleep
In silent majesty is wont to reign,
Would I could roam with thee!
The throbbing wish bounds in my every vein,
Wild spirit of the storm! like thee, I would be free."

Home Correspondence.

PICTURESQUE BALLADS OF CALIFORNIA.

To the Editor of the Literary World.

My attention was lately drawn to some remarks in a former number of your paper, upon the rich material which the poet and novelist have at command, in the early history of America. The distinguished Western naturalist, Dr. William R. Bland,* before his last fatal expedition to the prairies, left in my possession many literary fragments, which, since his death, I have carefully examined and arranged. Several years of travel and residence on the western coast of our continent, developed to him other sources, which have the additional value of being already moulded, though in rude forms, to the purposes of the poet. A familiar acquaintance with the wilder phases of California life (in which, indeed, a restless spirit led him to participate), enabled him to learn the rugged songs of the hunters and trappers, with which many a night by the camp-fire was enlivened. These songs are

* The name of this "distinguished Western Naturalist," is, we acknowledge, entirely new to us upon the rolls of fame; and we must confess to a shrewd suspicion, that "J. D. De B., of St. Louis" is not less apocryphal in character. Yet they have some spirited poets in St. Louis, however it may be in California.—Ed. Lit. World.

evidently the production of the class by which they are oftener sung; and though there are, properly speaking, none who improvise after the Italian or Arabic fashion, yet he spoke of many, who, in the excitement of the moment, were able to expand some familiar ballad into a recital of the gallant exploits of the day. The air and the words are alike rude and unpolished; yet the images are often of great force and beauty, and expressed in the full sonorous cadences of the Spanish tongue, their effect is singularly thrilling and exciting. In translating the specimen which I have selected from the manuscripts of my friend, I have been necessarily obliged to soften many expressions, which would be too harsh for the civilized ears of your readers. Should this please you, I will endeavor to send you others.

Yours, with respect, J. D. De B.
St. Louis, Jan. 15, 1848.

No. I. EL CANALO.*

Now saddle *el canalo* (!)—the freshening wind
of morn
Down in the flowery vega, is stirring through
the corn;
The thin smoke of the ranches grows red with
coming day,
And the steed's impatient stamping is eager for
the way!

My glossy-limbed canalo, thy neck is curved in
pride,
Thy slender ears pricked forward, thy nostril
straining wide;
And as thy quick neigh greets me, and I catch
thee by the mane,
I'm off with the winds of morning—the chief-
tain of the plain!

I feel the swift air whirring, and see along our
track,
From the flinty-paved sierra, the sparks go
streaming back;
And I clutch my rifle closer, as we sweep the
dark defile,
Where the red guerilla watches for many a lonely
mile!

They reach not *el canalo*; with the swiftness of
a dream,
We've passed the bleak Nevada, and the Gila's
icy stream;
But where, on sweeping gallop, my bullet back-
ward sped,
The keen-eyed mountain vultures will circle
o'er the dead!

On! on, my brave canalo! we've dashed the
sand and snow
From peaks upholding heaven, from deserts far
below—
We've thundered through the forest, while the
crackling branches rang,
And trooping elks, affrighted, from lair and
covert sprang!

We've swam the swollen torrent—we've dis-
tanced in the race
The baying wolves of Pinos, that panted with
the chase;
And still thy mane streams backward, at every
thrilling bound,
And still thy measured hoof-stroke beats with
its morning sound!

The seaward winds are wailing through Santa
Barbara's pines,
And like a sheathless sabre, the far Pacific
shines;
Hold to thy speed, my arrow! at nightfall thou
shalt lave
Thy hot and smoking haunches beneath his sil-
ver wave!

* *El canalo*, or the cinnamon-colored, is the name given to the choicest breed of the wild Californian horse. The swiftness and endurance of one of these animals is perfectly wonderful; and between him and his rider, there exists the same constant friendship, which characterizes the Arab and his steed.

My head upon thy shoulder, along the sloping
sand
We'll sleep as trusty brothers, from out the
mountain land,
And when I wake, canalo, to hear thy fiery
neigh,
We'll scour the sparkling vega, in the morning
cool and grey!

The Fine Arts.

ITEMS OF ART—AT HOME AND ABROAD.

A NEW life school, to be held for the present in one of the rooms of the National Academy, has just been established by the younger artists. In the several meetings that have been held, previous to the opening of the school, for the purpose of establishing it, they have manifested an enthusiasm that argues well for its future prospects; and from the liberality of its principles, and the simplicity of all its arrangements, we confidently believe it will long continue to confer a great and permanent benefit on our artists. The difficulty of obtaining models has heretofore rendered the study from the life almost impracticable; and this most necessary branch of an artist's education has consequently been so neglected, that there are few of our painters who do not annually betray their deficiencies in this respect. These newly created facilities will, we do not doubt, do much towards remedying this too general evil, and the future will give ample proof of the beneficial influence of attentive study of the living figure. At present the school will be open only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, the life school of the academy occupying the same room on the alternate evenings, thus giving to many the opportunity of study every night in the week; but we understand that, when a new room is obtained, it is proposed to open the school nightly, alternating with the draped and nude model of the male and female figure. To the academy much praise is due for the liberal manner in which they have acceded to the wishes of the students, and lent a helping hand to the school, by granting it the use of one of their rooms with lights and fuel; and we hope that their next exhibition will show that the artists are not unmindful of their favors. We have been unable to obtain a copy of the regulations; but we learn that they are few and simple, referring only to the manner in which members shall be admitted, the sitting of the model, and the assessment of dues. Candidates for admission are to be proposed by some member at one meeting, and admitted the next evening by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. The government of the school is vested in a committee of direction, elected for the term of one month.

The January number of the Art-Union Journal comes to us rich in pictorial and other attractions. The gem of the number is a beautiful engraving by FINDEN, after LANDSEER's picture of *The Breakfast Party*. Two other steel engravings, a full length portrait of Prince Albert, a most exquisite one of WESTMACOTT's *Psyche*, and fine wood cuts on almost every page, make it at once the most beautiful and the cheapest publication of the kind ever presented to the public. We see by the publisher's announcement, that the entire VERNON GALLERY, lately presented by Mr. Vernon to the National Gallery, containing a large number of the finest specimens of modern British art, is to be engraved in the future numbers of the Art-Union.

The existing arrangements of the London Art-Union Society are likely, remarks the

Athenæum, to be seriously affected by government interposition. An intimation from the Board of Trade announces to the management that a sum of 10 per cent. is likely to be levied on their gross receipts—that the privilege of a selection of a work of art, hitherto vested in the fortunate prizeholder, is to be assumed by such management as the board may think fit to appoint—and that the right of publishing engravings, hitherto exercised under the auspices of the society, will be assumed by the government.

An equestrian statue of Joan of Arc, by FOYATIER, is being erected on the Place Maitre, at Orleans. Joan is seated on horseback, clad in complete armor, a helmet upon her brow, and her hair falling upon her shoulders; the moment is when the English fled before her.

It having been represented lately to the Neapolitan authorities, that whilst other Italian cities were doing something to promote the fine arts, Naples was asleep—that though Pompeii and Herculaneum might be excavated, MSS. unrolled, deciphered, and printed, and relics of past life added to the treasures of the museum, still nothing was being done for painting—it was thereupon agreed by the Commune to send eight men to Rome to execute to order as many paintings. On being completed this spring, they were first exhibited at Rome, and were then all to be seen at Naples. Where to place these paintings was a difficulty, which has, however, been done away with. As the Campo Santo required an altar-piece, as well as certain churches which (suppressed by the French) have lately been restored, it was agreed to place them there. The subjects, size of the paintings, and price, were all previously fixed: the size being, at a guess, about seven feet by five, and the price agreed upon 1,000 ducats by the Campo Santo, and 500 ducats each by the churches—a price, if the value of money be considered at Naples, by no means trifling.

Poetry.

ARABELLA JOHNSON.

GAY and graceful lady! we love and bless
The light of thy fair presence, 'mid that band
Of stern, devoted heroes, who their land
Forsook for freedom's shore; thy loveliness
Shed a soft radiance, and lent its charm
To gild the deep'ning shadows of that hour.
Dear Puritan! thy cheerful smile did warm
The coldest breast; thy voice had wondrous
power
To move the strong man's heart, while yet for
these
The martyr's crown was waiting.—Yes! I know
'Tis said thy brave compeers trod moodily
The soil of liberty. It may be so.
Could they have been all gloom, when thou
wert nigh
Filling their night with thy clear melody?

S. L. M.

NOVEL ASSURANCE.—In the course of a trial for horse-stealing, the other day, the proprietor of a stolen mare, giving evidence as to her value, said she had been insured in the Royal Agricultural Insurance-office for £30. Baron Alderson: "Do you insure mares?" Prosecutor: "Yes, we insure their lives." (A laugh.) The Judge: "Is that a common thing to insure mares' lives?" Prosecutor: "Yes, my lord." The Judge: "You don't mean the lives of mayors of corporations?" (Loud laughter.) Prosecutor: "Oh, no, my lord, mares of farmers." (Continued laughter.)

Works in Press.

(From the Historical and Secret Memoirs of the Empress Josephine, just ready by Carey & Hart.)

The project was adopted,* but it was easy to see that they would endeavor to shake off the yoke which the conqueror sought to impose upon them; for it was perfectly clear that the Italians would prefer to govern themselves. Had the general known how to avail himself of this happy disposition of the Italians, he might have worn the iron crown of the Lombards long before he did. All the neighboring states seemed to rise simultaneously at his voice. The name of the chief who had conquered Leghorn, was a talisman of marvellous power.

In less than two months this new Hannibal was at the gates of the capital of the estates of the church; they would have been opened to the French had Bonaparte willed it; for Rome but awaited him like another Numa, and was ready to submit humbly to his authority. I enjoyed and exercised a great influence over the mind of the general; I called his attention to the enormous difference that existed between the Romans of the 17th and 18th centuries, and the Latins who founded the queen of cities, and became the masters of the world. The standard of the cross had taken the place of that of the great Pompey; the tranquillity of the pontifical government had, for nearly two thousand years, depressed the courage of the descendants of Romulus. Pope Pius VI. was, of course, frightened at the progress of the French troops towards his territory. He saw them already besieging the Vatican, and the prince of the church had reason to fear being shut up within the ramparts of St. Angelo.

Had Bonaparte followed his original plan, he would have been constrained to exercise this cruel law of war. Nevertheless, he would not flatter a prince whose throne he had come to overthrow. His instructions were positive. The head of the Catholic faith was liable, at any moment, to receive fetters from the hands of the victor. Perhaps, from a sort of shame, the French government might have granted him the right of being the spiritual head of a church rent by schisms; but it was absolutely determined that he should ratify the civil constitution of the clergy, renounce all his temporal rights, and confine himself exclusively to the duties prescribed by the ritual. Then, by way of compensation, the Directory might, perhaps, concede to him the modest title of the "first bishop of the French Republic."

Such were the secret instructions from which the general of a victorious army was not to depart, from the day he should, like another Alaric, enter the Roman states.

My husband endeavored to soften the rigor of his instructions towards the pope, and I am certain that I contributed much to that act of generosity. "I cannot" (wrote Bonaparte to the pope) hold any kind of negotiation with you, unless you consent, on the spot, to the most enormous sacrifices. I wish to show the French government, that it is more profitable for them to draw contributions from Italy, than to afflict it with despair and death."

The Romans of the present time are naturally superstitious; the persecutions of Pius VI. alarmed the Catholics; and the French general, instead of treating with him, was, in fact, preparing for him great resources for the future; for he proved to the world, that an enemy who humbles himself before the French, finds them ever ready to lend him a helping hand.

No sooner had the land of the Tarquins submitted to our arms, than civil dissensions broke out in the bosom of Romagna. The numerous insurrections extended to Lugo, a considerable town in the legation of Ferrara. The chief Italian cities trembled at our successes; many of them leagued together, and called upon Marshal Wurmser to defend them. The old general, sure of the support of those warlike people, presented himself before the French lines, and im-

mediately the attack was commenced at all points. Wurmser attached a sort of glory to being the vanquisher of Bonaparte.

Their first engagement was a bloody one, and the Austrian general remained master of the field of battle. My husband promised to be avenged; but, in the interim, it was necessary to provide for the retreat of the French army, a large part of whom had fled in disorder, and were hotly pursued by the Germans.

A moment sufficed to show the great man his true situation, and to enable him to comprehend it. One false step might have destroyed him for ever. He took one which seemed extraordinary, that of immediately raising the siege of Mantua, and ordering several of his generals to join him at Brescia.

He could not forgive Marshal Wurmser for having beaten him. Said he to his troops:—"This old captain, now more than eighty years old, gives us too much annoyance; it belongs to you, my braves, to make him repose eternally upon his laurels."

My husband multiplied himself, so to speak, at every point. At Lonadano, where he went to superintend in person an attack upon an Austrian division which menaced him, his exertions succeeded beyond all expectation. His presence of mind was wonderful. At length, a stroke of boldness and genius saved the French army. The battle of Castiglioni was one of the most splendid feats of arms that adorn the pages of history.

This new triumph astonished Italy, and threw into the shade the principal part of Bonaparte's enemies. The first successes of the Austrians had awakened hopes at Cremona, Castel-Maggiore, and Ferrara; the agitators made an appeal to the people, and talked about re-conquering their liberty; and while thinking about avenging themselves on their oppressors, they dared insult the French commissioners in the gardens of the Medici. A civil war was on the point of breaking out. On all sides men were rushing to arms:—"We must," said they, "oppose the carrying away of the master-works of genius, the primary source of our riches and our glory!" Such was the general cry of the agitators. They trampled under foot the emblems of liberty and equality, and while Italy was losing her protecting divinities, the effervescence of the populace was carried to its utmost height. The people shed tears, and were touched with veneration for the antique statues which the victorious hands of the French were taking from their natal soil, to enrich our museums at home.

Fame had spread the news of these successes of Bonaparte throughout Lombardy.

The malcontents became quiet, and were afraid to provoke the vengeance of the conqueror. The most moderate and prudent party, those who were the friends of a constitutional liberty and of organic laws, such as could alone insure the tranquillity of a state, united their efforts to obtain political power, and the Cisalpine republic was spontaneously proclaimed as the means of putting an end to the reign of anarchy.

I was at Milan during the memorable campaign, in which Bonaparte triumphed so completely over Wurmser. "I have," wrote he to me, "beaten him well, but I assure you, the old marshal was not well served by his officers, and the gold which I managed to distribute to certain favorites did him more hurt than the republican bayonets."

After the battle of Roveredo, balls and concerts multiplied to infinity at Milan, whither Bonaparte came for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the foundation of the republic. One can hardly form any idea of the pomp and costly luxury of that triumphant ceremony. He had, in some sort, ordered it for the purpose of trying the strength of the Directory, and at the same time making a show of his own power. All the pretty Milanese women were on tiptoe for the honor of being presented to him. He noticed in the great box or *loge*, of the *Casino de recitazione*, a pretty Bolognese, dressed in

* See Literary World, No. 51.

the colors that then constituted the universal charm. As she happened to be at my side, I perceived that he made a sign indicating his respect for the young stranger; and to please my husband, I even outdid him in eulogies upon that interesting woman. Her husband had fallen a victim in the late events that had taken place at Modena. He was a member of the regency, and was now in prison for his political offences; she had come to me to intercede with Bonaparte for his liberation. She finally obtained it, but upon a condition. Her father was all-powerful at Bologna; Bonaparte exacted that the tricolor flag should be immediately raised upon the citadel of that town, and that a republic like that of Milan should be instituted without delay.

He was full of gaiety for several days. He received with marks of respect, several Milanese girls, who came to present him with an elegant basket, the devices and emblems on which rendered it a beautiful ornament. I was charged with the duty of making his acknowledgments for this homage. At the same time, he forbade the admission to his presence of a certain terrestrial divinity who had rode through the city elevated on a car, in the midst of shouts of *viva la repubblica francese*. "Ladies," said he, with an air of good nature, on returning to the palace, "to-day is the day for making calls among the Milanese. Liberty should not go out of her temple, and consequently the Goddess of Reason will remain veiled in the midst of these laughing children of Momus."

The French general was in the habit of thus charming away his leisure moments; but he soon became tired of what he called his inaction, and returned to his camp in the midst of his soldiers. His presence electrified and aroused them to confront new perils. Meanwhile, seditious movements took place at Ferrara, Bologna, and Modena. The inhabitants of the last-mentioned city made a hasty attempt to rebuild their feeble ramparts. Bonaparte appeared in their midst like a thunderbolt; overthrew its ancient government, and established another, and ordered that all the principal places should unite together by a firm league.

Extracts from New Foreign Works.

[From "Notes from Life." In Six Essays. By Henry Taylor, Author of "Philip van Artevelde," just published in London.]

ESSAY ON CHILDREN.

"THE most essential qualifications for training a child well, are not of a nature to be communicated by books or lectures or education. They are 1st, The desire to be right in the matter; 2d, Sense; 3d, Kindness; and 4th, Firmness. Where these are wanting, the wisest admonitions in the world will be of no other use than to relieve the mind of the person who throws them away." And onwards:

"The doctrine of an eminent writer (of a generation now nearly gone), that a child should be reasoned into obedience, had, in its day, more of a misleading efficacy than might have been thought possible; and many a parent was induced to believe that a child should be taught to give its obedience not because it was obedience, but because the thing ordered was reasonable; the little casuists and controversialists being expected to see the reason of things as readily in real life, as in the dialogues between Tutor and Charles. The common sense of mankind has now made an end of this doctrine, and it is known now, as it was before the transit of that eminent person, that obedience—prompt, implicit, unreasoning, and almost unconscious—is the first thing to be taught to a child, and that he can have no peace for his soul without it.

"The notion of setting up the reason to be the pivot of humanity, from the cradle for-

wards, belongs to a generation of fallacies which have returned to the dust from which they came; but it included one error in theories of education which will be found to belong to many that are still extant; the error of assuming that the parent is to be perfect. Under the reasoning regimen, what was to happen when the parent's reasons were bad? And in like manner, with respect to many less unnatural systems which are recommended as if they were of unquestionable applicability, the question may be asked, Will most parents be competent to give effect to them? And, bearing in mind the not inconsiderable number of mankind who labor under imperfections of the understanding or other disqualifying defects, I believe we shall find that a few strong instincts, and a few plain rules, are all that can be appealed to for a general guidance in the management of children.

"That first and foremost rule of exacting obedience, is so far from being subject to the condition of showing reasons, that I believe a parent with a strong will, although it be a perverse one, will train a child better than a parent of a reasonable mind, tainted by infirmity of purpose. For, as 'obedience is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams,' so an authority which is absolute by virtue of its own inherent strength, is better than one which is shaken by a reference to ends and purposes, and by reasonable doubts as to whether they are the best and most useful. Nor will the parent's perversity, unless it be unkind or ill-tempered, occasion the child half so much uneasiness in the one case, as the child will suffer from those perversities of its own which will spring up in the other. For habits of instant and mechanical obedience are those that give rest to the child, and spare its health and temper; whilst a recusant or dawdling obedience will keep it distracted in propensity, bringing a perpetual pressure on its nerves, and consequently on its actual and bodily strength.

"It is selfishness on the part of parents which gives rise to undue indulgence of children—the selfishness of sacrificing those for whom they care less, to those for whom they care more; and the selfishness of the parent for the child will invariably produce selfishness of the child for himself. A spoilt child is never generous. And selfishness is induced in a child not only by too much indulgence, but even by too much attention. It will be most for the child's happiness and well-being, both present and to come, that he should feel himself, in respect to comforts and enjoyments, the most insignificant person in the house. In that case he will have his own resources, which will be more available to him than any which perpetual attention can minister; he will be subject to fewer discontents; and his affections will be more cultivated by the occasional tokens of kindness which a contented child will naturally receive in sufficient abundance, than they would be by continual endeavors to make him happy.

"And if continual attention to making him happy will not produce happiness, neither will continual attention to making him good produce goodness. For if the child feels that there is some one incessantly occupied with his happiness and goodness, he will come to be incessantly occupied with himself. Something must be left in a spirit of faith and hope to Nature and God's providence. Parents are the instruments, but they are not to be all in all. Room must be left for some liberty of action, for many an untended impulse, for self-reliance, for temptations and trials, with

their natural results of victory with self-respect, or defeat with remorse. By such treatment, the child's moral nature, being amply exercised, will be seasonably strengthened; and when he comes into the world as a man, he will come with a man's weapons of defence; whereas if the child be constantly watched and kept out of harm's way, he will come into the world a moral weakling. I was once present when an old mother, who had brought up a large family of children with eminent success, was asked by a young one what she would recommend in the case of some children who were too anxiously educated, and her reply was—"I think, my dear, a little wholesome neglect."

"For similar reasons, it may be well that children should not be hedged in with any great number of rules and regulations. Such as are necessary to be established, they should be required implicitly to observe. But there should be none that are superfluous. It is only in rich families, where there is a plentiful attendance of governesses and nurses, that many rules can be enforced; and I believe that the constant attentions of governesses and nurses is one of the greatest moral disadvantages to which the children of the rich are exposed.

"I have heard a multiplicity of petty regulations defended, on the ground that it was a constant exercise of the child's sense of right and wrong. But will a child be really the better for always thinking about whether he does right or wrong, that is, always thinking about himself? Were it not well that, for hours together, no question of right or wrong should arise in his path? or, at least, none that demands from him more than a half-mechanical attention? For the conscience of a child may easily be worn out, both by too much pressure, and by over-stimulation. I have known a child to have a conscience of such extraordinary and premature sensibility, that at seven years of age she would be made ill by remorse for a small fault. She was brought up by persons of excellent understanding, with infinite care and affection, and yet, by the time she was twenty years of age, she had next to no conscience, and a hard heart. A person who had some experience of precocious consciences, once observed to me, in respect to those children who are said to be too good and too clever to live, that it was very desirable they should not.

"These views are not, of course, to be pushed too far."

Glimpses of Books.

THE CHOICE OF A HELPMATE.—"There are other motives and circumstances besides those connected with prudence, which, in the case of men, militate against early marriages. If their passion (as it happens with most first passions) have issued in a disappointment, and if they have passed through their disappointment without being betrayed, by the heart's abhorrence of its vacuum, into some immediate marriage of the *pis-aller* kind, resorted to for mere purposes of repose, they will probably find that a first seizure of the kind guarantees them for a certain number of years against a second. In the mean time, the many interests, aspirations, and alacrities of youth, its keen pursuits and its fresh friendships, fill up the measure of life, and make the single heart sufficient to itself. It is when these things have partly passed away, and life has lost something of its original brightness, that men begin to feel an insufficiency and a want. I have known it to be remarked by a Roman Catholic Priest, as the result of much observa-

tion of life amongst his brethren, that the pressure of their vow of celibacy was felt most severely towards forty years of age.

"If a man have fairly passed that period without marrying, or attempting marriage, then, I think, or very soon after, he may conclude that there is no better fortune in store for him, and dispose himself finally for the life celibate."—*Notes from Life, by Henry Taylor.*

MATCHMAKING.—"But if an unreasonable opposition to a daughter's choice be not to prevail, I think that, on the other hand, the parents, if their views of marriage be pure from worldliness, are justified in using a good deal of management—not more than they very often do use, but more than they are wont to avow, or than society is wont to countenance—with a view to putting their daughters in the way of such marriages as they can approve. It is the way of the world to give such management an ill name—probably because it is most used by those who abuse it to worldly purposes; and I have heard a mother pique herself on never having taken a single step to get her daughters married,—which appeared to me to have been a dereliction of one of the most essential duties of a parent. If the mother be wholly passive, either the daughters must take steps and use management for themselves (which is not desirable), or the happiness and the most important interests of their lives, moral and spiritual, must be the sport of chance, and take a course purely fortuitous; and in many situations, where unsought opportunities of choice do not abound, the result may be not improbably such a love and marriage as the mother and every one else contemplates with astonishment. Some such astonishment I recollect to have expressed on an occasion of the kind to an illustrious poet and philosopher, whose reply I have always borne in mind, when other such cases came under my observation:—"We have no reason to be surprised, unless we knew what may have been the young lady's opportunities. If Miranda had not fallen in with Ferdinand, she would have been in love with Caliban."—*Taylor's Notes from Life.*

Miscellany.

CHARLES LAMB'S LIBRARY IN NEW YORK.

"And you, my midnight darlings, my folios, must I part with the intense delight of having you (huge armfuls) in my embrace; must knowledge come to me, if it come at all, by some awkward experiment of intuition, and no longer by this familiar process of reading?" ELIA.

GENTLE ELIA, when he dreamed that there was but one city in the world deserving to be called "THE TOWN," could never have conceived that Bartlett & Welford's would be thronged by Broadway loungers curiously conning over his cherished volumes. Yet it is even so. These books, which Lamb so loved that they seemed a part of himself, have been plucked from the smoke of London, deracinated from the pavements of Cockneydom, and now they are in the Astor House, all written over on the margin by Coleridge and Southey and Lamb himself. What will their fate be now? Who, amid the ever changing fortunes of American families, will keep the herd together in a library! Their destiny is now most assuredly to travel over the continent. Some to be dog's-eared in Oregon, some to grow crisp of cover in Labrador, some to be freshly bound in leather from a Californian bullock, some to follow annexation and be shelved in time in the "Society Library" of Mexico.

In the next century, some book collector may attempt to bring them once more together; and confident that "The Literary World" will be preserved till that time in all public libraries of the continent, we have subjoined a correct list for the benefit of the bibliopole of a hundred years hence.

During the long illness of Miss Lamb, the

collection of books that had formed the solace and delight of her brother's life, met with neglect and partial dispersion among his friends; at her death the following volumes were selected from the mass as worthy of preservation, from containing notes, &c., by the late possessor, and the remainder destroyed—so that no other such opportunity can offer to the admirers of C. Lamb, for securing a memento of their favorite author. The notes, remarks, &c., referred to and quoted in inverted commas, in the following list, are warranted to be *all* in the autograph of Lamb (except when otherwise mentioned), and it will be seen that many of his most favorite works are there; no attempt has been made to re-clothe his "shivering folios;" they are precisely in the state in which he possessed and left them.

Auli Gellii, Noctes Atticæ, 24mo., Amst., Elz., 1651.

"This book was bought at Mr. J. Horne Tooke's sale, and the marginal references are from his pen."—C. L.'s MS. Note.

Art of Living in London (The), A Poem, 12mo., Lond., 1805.

With long MS. note on the author, Mr. Wm. Cooke. "Goldsmith gave the title to the *Art* and revised it all, from Jacky Taylor," and other notes and remarks MS.

Bourne (V.), Poemata, Latine, partim reddita, partim scripta, 12mo., Lond., 1750.

With several Latin poetical extracts, &c., on the fly leaves, and an original Latin poem of six lines, "*Suum Cuique*," signed C. L., printed in Talfourd's *Life*; "the only Latin verse I have made for 40 years. From thence I turned to V. Bourne, what a sweet, unpretending, pretty mannered, wonderful creature. Bless him! Latin wasn't good enough for him, why wasn't he content with the language which Gay and Prior wrote in."—*Letter to Southey*, 1815.

Burney (James), Essay on the Game of Whist, 12mo., Lond., 1821.

"Martin Charles Burney, from the author" (the M. B. of Elia).

Bacon's (Lord), Works, small 4to., Lond., 1629.

"This book contains Advancement of Learning (1st edition, 1629), and Essays by Lord Bacon."—MS. Note.

Cities Great Concern (The), A Question of Honor and Arms, whether Apprentiship extinguisheth Gentry, 18mo., Lond., 1674.

"This treatise was written by John Philpot, Somerset Herald, died 1615," and MS. copy of title page on fly leaf.

Cleaveland (J.), Poems, Orations, and Epistles, and others of his Genuine, Incomparable Pieces, 1st edit., 12mo., Lond., 1662.

MS. notice of the author from Fuller's *Worthies*.

Cleaveland (J.), Poems, Orations, and Epistles, and others of his Genuine, Incomparable Pieces, 12mo., Lond., 1668.

MS. notes, and additional poems.

Chaucer (Jeffrey), The Works of our Ancient and Learned English Poet, and Lidgate's Story of Thebes, Speght's Edition, folio, Lond., 1598, Black-Letter, good sound copy.

MS. notes and extracts on the fly leaves. "I have not a black-letter book amongst mine, old Chaucer excepted."—*Letter to Miss Wordsworth*, 1821.

Cowley (A.), The Works of, complete, folio, Lond., 1693.

Three folio pages of additions and extracts, marginal corrections, MS.

Dunciad (The), Variorum, Svo., Lond., 1729

"This book contains the *Dunciad* as at first written, with Theobald for hero, and the *Art of Politics*, in imitation of Horace's *Ars Poet.*"

Dennis (Mr.), Original Letters, Familiar, Moral, and Critical, by Svo., Lond., 1726.

MS. notes and additions.

Drayton (Michael), The Works of, containing Poly Olbion, The Barons' War, England's Heroical Epistles, &c., 1 vol. large folio, best Edition, Lond., 1748.

The blank leaves are literally crowded with illustrative extracts from Elizabethan authors, additional poems, &c., including the whole of Skelton's *Philip Sparrow*, in C. Lamb's "most clerkly" hand writing.

Euripidis Tragediarum, interp. Lat., Svo., Oxonii, 1821.

"C. & M. Lamb from H. F. Cary," on fly leaf, and a few marginal corrections of the text in C. Lamb's hand.

Edwards (Jonathan), Svo.

"Edwards on Free Will, and Priestley on Necessity, are bound together in this volume."—MS. Note.

"Priestley, whom I sin in almost adoring."—*Letter to Coleridge*, 1797.

Fulke Greville (Lord Brooke), Certain Learned and Elegant Works of, written in his Youth, and Familiar Exercise with Sir Philip Sidney containing Treatise of Humane Learning, of Warres, Tragedie of Alaham, &c., &c., small fol., Lond., 1633.

Long extracts relative to Ld. Brooke, marginal corrections, and note on the suppression of one of his works.

"Whether we look into his plays or his most passionate love poems, we find all frozen and made rigid with intellect."—*Dramatic Specimens*.

Guardian (The), vol. 1, 12mo., London, 1750; vol. 2 24mo., London, 1734.

In vol. 1 are the autographs, "John Lamb, 1756," "Charles Lamb," in a child's and an older hand. This set, of which the first volume had belonged to his father, and the second was picked up at some stall, was Chas. Lamb's only copy of "The Guardian."

Hudibras, in Three Parts, with Annotations, 12mo., London, 1726.

On the Title, "Mr. John Lamb," and various marginal corrections, &c., in his son's hand.

Hymens Præluia; or, Loves Masterpiece, that so much admired Romance of Cleopatra, translated by R. Loveday. Folio, London, 1698.

MS. note on Title.

Jonson's (Ben) Works complete in 1 vol. folio, London, 1692.

The blank leaves, margins, &c., are filled with extracts from the old Dramatists and early English Writers, with additional Poems, corrections of the Text, &c., in Charles Lamb's early hand-writing, forming a most curious and valuable memento of his favorite studies.

Lucan's Pharsalia; or, the Civil Wars of Rome. Englished by Thomas May. With continuation to the death of Julius Caesar, 12mo., London, 1635.

Bears marks of careful reading with the favorite passages and epithets underscored.

More (Dr. Henry), Philosophical Poems, Platonic Song of the Soul, &c., 12mo., Cambridge, 1647.

Fine copy, gilt edges, with additional Poems and few MS. notes and corrections.

More (Dr. Henry), Collection of the Philosophical Writings of, folio, London, 1712.

On fly leaf, "Mr. Lamb, 30 Russell street, Covent Garden, corner of Bow street; in the autumn of this year (1817) he and his sister removed to lodgings in Russell street, Covent Garden, delightfully situated between the two great Theatres."—*Talfourd's Life*. See *Letter to Miss Wordsworth*, Nov. 21, 1817, in do.

More (Dr. Henry), Explanation of the Grand Mystery of Godliness, folio, London, 1680.

"Lamb, Colebrook Cottage, end of Colebrook Terrace, left hand," apparently a direction for the delivery of the book, written inside.

Minor Poets, The Works of, vol. 1 12mo., London, 1749.

"Wentworth, Lord Rosecommon, Charles, Earl of Dorset, Lord Halifax, Sir Samuel Garth." MS. note on fly leaf.

Miscellanies, in one vol. Svo., containing five Tracts.

"This volume contains Antonio: a Tragedy by Wm. Godwin; Remorse: a Tragedy, by S. T. C.; Antiquity: a Farce, by B. (aron) Field," &c. MS. list of Contents. Outside the cover is written, "The Remainder of Christ's Hospital.—return the volume when done with. C. L. for L. Hunt, Esq."

Miscellany Letters, Collection of, selected out of *Mist's Weekly Journal*, 2 vols. Svo., Lond., 1722.

On the cover of vol. 1 is a curious list of Lamb's friends and acquaintances with their address as "Godwin, 44 Gower Place, Fenwick" (the Bignod of Elia); "Bond street, New York, and Niagara, Upper Canada Talfourd, Moxon," &c.

Newcastle (Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of), Works, 1 vol. folio, Lond., 1664.

"This volume contains, besides Philosophical Letters, The Life of the Duke of Newcastle, by the Duchess." MS. note. Such a book, for instance, as the Life of the Duke of Newcastle by his Duchess,—no casket is rich enough, no casing sufficiently durable to honor and keep safe such a jewel."—*Elia*.

Newcastle (Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of), The World's Olio, written by the Thrice noble historian and most excellent Princess, the Duchess of Newcastle, folio, Lond., 1671.

Bears marks of careful reading, with many marginal MS. notes, comments, &c.

Newcastle (Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of), Nature's Pictures, drawn by Fancies Pencil, the Duchess of Newcastle,—her Excellency's Comical Tales in Verse,—do. do. in Prose, Lond., folio, 1656.

MS. marginal notes and corrections.

Osborne (Francis), The Works of, Memoirs of Queen Elizabeth and King James, &c., 8vo., Lond., 1689.

Few MS. references, &c.

Old Plays, A Collection of rare old quarto Plays; original editions, by Nat. Lee, Shadwell, Settle, Mrs. Bohn, Tom Dufey, Crowne, &c., 11 in No., bound in 1 vol. 4to.

MS. list of contents.

Old Plays, A Collection of rare old quarto Plays; original editions, by Wycherley, Dryden, Shadwell, &c., with Dryden's Essay on Dramatic Poetry, 12 plays in 1 vol. 4to.

MS. list of contents.

Minor Poets, the Works of, by Vanbrugh, Farquhar, Settle, &c., and curious Tracts by A. Marvell, C. Cotton, Motteux, &c. 1 vol. 4to.

15 Tracts, with MS. List of Contents.

Minor Poets, the Works of, contain "The Duchess of Marly," by John Webster (with numerous marginal corrections; no doubt the copy used for the "Dramatic Specimens"). The Rehearsal of the Duke of Buckingham, and others by Etherege, Otway, Wycherley, &c. 1 vol. 4to.

MS. Contents.

Poetical Tracts, original 4to. Editions, Mason's English Garden, 1772, View of Covent Garden Theatre, curious plate, The Theatres, ditto, 1772. 1 vol. 4to.

MS. List of Contents, 7 Tracts.

Poetical Tracts, 1 vol. 8vo. Poems by Charles Lloyd, 1795; Lines on the Fast by ditto, 1799; "Charles Lloyd to Charles:" Coleridge's France; Fears in Solitude, &c.; Wordsworth's Descriptive Sketches, &c. All original editions.

Full of corrections and variations of the Text, MS. Contents, &c., by C. L.

Prior (M.), Miscellaneous Works of 8vo., Lond., 1740.

Numerous MS. Additions, Extracts, &c.

Plays. 1 vol. 8vo.

"This Book contains Wallenstein, a drama, in two parts, translated by S. T. Coleridge, from Schiller, Plays by Joanna Baillie." MS. notes.

Philips (Mrs. Katharine), The Poems of, the Matchless Orinda, folio, Lond., 1678.

MS. critical note and emendations, &c.

Relation of the Fearfull Estate of Francis Spira. 12mo.

"This Book was written by one Springer, a lawyer." MS. note.

Reliquie Wottonianæ. A Collection of Lives, Letters, Poems, and Characters (by Sir Henry Wotton, Dr. Donne, &c.), edited by Izaack Walton. Best edition. 8vo, Lond., 1672.

Additional Poems by Wotton, and few notes, MS.

Richardson (John), Explanatory Notes and Remarks on Milton's Paradise Lost. 8vo., Lond., 1734.

MS. Notes and Extracts on the Fly Leaves.

Review of the Text of the Twelve Books of Milton's Paradise Lost, in which Dr. Bentley's emendations are considered. 8vo., Lond., 1733.

"By Dr. Zachary Pearce, Bishop of Rochester." MS. note.

Shakspeare's Poems. Venus and Adonis, Tarquin and Lucrece, &c. 12mo., Lond., 1714.

With several pages of poetical extracts, poems ascribed to Shakspeare, &c., and frequent marginal corrections of the Text, references, &c., as The Amorous Epistle of Helen to Paris. "By Thomas Heywood, not Sh." &c.

Spectator (The), Vol. 9th and last. 4th edition, rare. 12mo., Lond., 1724.

"By Wm. Bond, associate with Aaron Hill in the Plain Dealer." MS. note.

Swift's Works, Vol. 5. 12mo., Dublin, 1759.

Six pages of Poetical Extracts on the fly leaves, margin, &c.

Suckling (Sir John), Fragmenta Aurea. A Collection of the incomparable pieces of. 8vo., Lond., 1646.

MSS. Extracts from Aubrey's Lives, Notes, &c.

Sewel (Wm.), The History of the Rise and Progress of the people called Quakers, folio, Lond., 1722.

MS. reference, &c., on fly leaf. "Reader, if you are not acquainted with it, I would recommend to you above all Church Narratives to read Sewel's History of the Quakers."—*Elia*.

Tryon (Thos.), of the Knowledge of a Man's Self. 8vo.

Curious MS. Account of the Author of this singular work.

Tale of a Tub (The), and Battle of the Books. 8vo., Lond., 1710.

Few MS. marginal Notes.

Tracts, Miscellaneous, bound in 1 vol. 8vo. The Spleen, by Mr. Matthew Green, 1737, Dissertation on the Inlets to Human Knowledge, 1739, The Uncertainty of Physic, 1739, &c.

MS. List of Contents.

Tracts, Miscellaneous, 11 curious Tracts. The Clouds of Aristophanes, translated by J. White and 10 others, rare, with MS. List of Contents. 1 vol. 8vo.

Tracts, Miscellaneous, 1 thick volume, 12mo, Descriptive Catalogue of Pictures and Poetical, and Historical Inventions, by William Blake. 1809, Lord Rochester's Poems, Lady Winchelsea's Poems, C. Lamb's Confessions of a Drunkard, with Corrections, &c., Southey's Wat Tyler, &c.

12 Tracts, with MS. List of Contents.

Waller (Mr.), The Second Part of his Poems, containing his alterations of the Maid's Tragedy, &c. 8vo., Lond., 1690.

Additional Poems and Notes in MS.

BOOKS WITH NOTES BY S. T. COLERIDGE.

"Reader, lend thy books, but let it be to such a one as S. T. C., he will return them (generally anticipating the time appointed) with usury, enriched with annotations tripling their value."—*Elia*.

Buncle (John) the Life of. By Thomas Amory. 8vo., Lond.

With very curious and characteristic introductory critical Note by Coleridge, and marginal corrections throughout.

Donne (John) Dean of St. Paul's, Poems by 12mo., Lond., 1669.

The blank leaves and margins full of curious and valuable critical and illustrative notes, written while reading the poems, most characteristic of Coleridge, including an original Epigrammatic Poem by him &c., &c., at the end is—"I shall die soon, my dear Charles Lamb, and then you will not be vexed that I have scribbled your book." S. T. C., 2d May, 1811."

God's Revenge against the crying and execrable sin of Murder. In 30 several Tragical Histories. By John Reynolds. Folio cuts, Lond., 1651.

With very long and curious critical and metaphysical notes by Coleridge, characterising the book of "honest Murderer-Maniacal John Reynolds," in another he says, "O what a beautiful concordia discordantium is an unthinking good man's soul."

History (The) of Philip de Commines, Knight, Lord of Argentan. Translated, folio, Lond., 1674.

With interesting MS. note by Charles Lamb, at the commencement, and "Memorabilia" by Coleridge at the end, on the free towns and republics of the Middle Ages, &c.

Petwin (Rev. John). Letters concerning the Mind, with a Sketch of Universal Arithmetic, &c. 8vo., Lond., 1750.

Full of the most curious philosophic and abstruse notes and remarks by Coleridge, written in Pencil during his perusal of the book, and dated Oxford, October 19, 1830.

N.B. The Notes, &c., by Coleridge mentioned above, are *entirely unpublished*, and were entirely unknown to the Editors of his Literary Remains, to which they would form an important addition.

EUROPEAN PIRACY OF AMERICAN BOOKS.

A LATE number of the London Athenæum gives an account of an impudent exploit of Book Buccaneering which has recently been performed in Germany. Some German literary corsair has, it seems, boarded the home craft, known as Mrs. Sedgwick's "Poor Rich Man," and altered its register so as to make it hail from Hamburg. In a word, the plunderer has changed the title, and by striking out the word "New York" wherever it occurred in the story, and substituting—"Hamburg" with its streets and localities, has taken the credit of *originality*, instead of getting a halter for his rascality.

A valued correspondent in England, also, sends us an account of book operations in England, characterized by a similar spirit, Mr. Emerson being the sufferer in this instance.

It seems that Mr. Emerson's Boston publishers (Jas. Munroe & Co.), wishing to give Emerson's writings the advantage of the present popularity of the author in England, supplied a London House with a stock of his books. After they had been extensively and expensively advertised by the house to which they were consigned, another English publishing house, following the example of our countrymen, printed the work, with as little scruple as it could be done by anybody in this country (meaning by that "anybody," the *honest* public at large; for you may as well attribute the Mexican war to General Taylor, as hold the booksellers accountable for carrying on this public war against sound morals). "No wonder (writes our indignant friend), that American authors are half beggared! No wonder that our aspirants for Literary Fame give up, discouraged at the outset, when their manuscripts (at the mercy of publishers in England) are turned away by the American publishers—for why? because it is more for their interest to reprint! No copyright, no outlay for brains! Poor Emerson! while the fruits of former efforts seemed just maturing for him to grasp, he moves about a strange country as the lecturing travelling advertiser of his own wares in the hands of others to mutilate as they please, and sell under his name for their own benefit."

Truly this is the age of Progress, and we are a highly civilized people! why should we not be? Cheap Literature! Cheap Civilization!

POPULAR EDUCATION IN SWITZERLAND.—Out of 70,000 children in Berne, scarcely 20,000 receive instruction; of the proficiency of these we may form some idea on hearing that the pupils of an elder class, at a school examination, confounded the three original Swiss Confederates with the three Kings of Cologne, and asserted that Goliath lost his life at the battle of Sempach!

EDITORIAL MISERIES.

[FROM THE GEORGETOWN ROYAL GAZETTE.]

An Editor sat on a lofty stool,
A very long pen was stuck in his ear;
Before him productions from roque and fool,
In hieroglyphics not over clear.
He opened one, and he opened all,
More like a machine than a man
(How imperturbable editors are),
And thus the medley ran:—

- "Are you for taking the duty off tea?"
"What's the age of the Pope?"
"When will the next Good Friday be?"
"Are you pretty well off for soap?"
"Oblige by stating the longest night."
"Did Shelley make a will?"
"Misther Heedetur, sir, who von the fight.
The Nobbler or Brummagem Bill?"
- "Can a policeman legally knock me down,
If I ask him the way to the ferry?"
"Who wrote the life of Grimaldi, the Clown?"
"Whom did Julius Caesar marry?"
"When was Tawell, the Quaker, hanged?"
"Who bought Lord George's 'Gaper'?"
"Is the *Anabus scandens* double fanged?"
"Are you going to reduce your paper?"
- "When did Hannah More breathe her last?"
"Four threes at cribbage, what's the score?"
"Is the potatoe panic past?"
"State the baker's name who fed Jane Shore?"
"Do they pay for gas in Temple-bar?"
"Is Lamb right in Ariel's gender?"
"Do you think angling a healthy sport?"
"Have you seen the new mail tender?"
- "Is bone-dust really made into bread?"
"Are the Jumpers increasing in Wales?"
"Where is it that angels fear to tread?"
"Have you tried the patent scales?"
"What color was Polyphemus's eye?"
"Was the great Alexander a Spartan?"
"When may an oyster be said to die?"
"Who's the oft-mentioned Betty Martin?"

Now entered the office an inky youth,
A mass of most picturesque splashing;
"Twould have done him good, a dive after truth,
If but for the sake of the washing.
Awaiting the Editor's orders he stood;
No emotion his tattoo'd face tinted;
Comets and coms were the same to him—
He did not care what was printed.

The Editor handed the boy a list
That would cover a drawing-room floor,
And said, "Just insert these initials and say
We have answered these questions before."
Then he savagely fell to biting his pen
(An unsatisfactory ration).
And said to the boy, "You can state again
The amount of our circulation."

The Editor sat on his lofty stool,
Before him a sheet of foolscap lay;
So many subjects claimed his pen,
That he doubted what to say.
On a sudden he thought of the starving world,
And advised a plan to feed her:
He dashed his pen in the plant ink—
[Buy the paper, and study the "leader."

INDEPENDENCE OF "BUSH" LIFE.—To men who have resorted to emigration as a refuge from the corroding cares of English life, the dearth of employment, the rent, the taxes, the manifold expenses that common decency requires, the houses you are obliged to live in, the furniture you are obliged to lay in, the clothes you must wear, the dinners you must give, and the thousand-and-one expenses you must incur, because other people do, bush life has the charm of thorough independence. In voluntary privation you save a fortune; a Panama hat, a clean shirt, a pair of fustian trousers, and half-boots, are costume enough to receive the Queen's commissioner. A good saddle and a good horse is your only luxury. A few pickled onions, with a piece of mutton, make a splendid repast. No money passes; the few purchases required are paid by orders of the value of 5s. and upwards on a Sydney merchant. The very absence of money contributes to gentlemanly, liberal feelings; this, and the universal hospitality, render the change to English life very inferior to any one who has his bread to earn.—*A Voice from Australia.*

A NEW LUXURY FOR PARIS.—The Jardin 'd Hiver, which may be considered almost the greatest enterprise for public amusement of modern times in Paris, was opened on Monday. This establishment has no parallel at present in Europe, and is to be conducted on a scale of liberality and magnificence, which will admit of no future competition. Beneath an immense dome of glass the visitor may wander amid secluded paths, and recline amid the solitudes of the tropics, embowered in the shade of cocoa-tree, mango, and banana; while at his feet spring the myriad host of gaudy flowers peculiar to the torrid zone. A noble fountain, said to rise to the height of one hundred feet, maintains the coolness of the atmosphere, which might otherwise be found too heated, and adds to the illusion. A splendid ball-room has been contrived amid this enchanted grove; and the effect of the whole, when illuminated by the thousand jets of gas, which light the building from without the glass dome, is indescribably beautiful.—Paris correspondent of *The Atlas.*

THE LAND DURING THE MIDDLE GEOLOGICAL EPOCH.—The long-snouted and other crocodiles, which have gorged themselves with fish in the shallow water, now sleep half-buried in the muddy and naked plains on shore. Some of them, eighteen or twenty feet long, advance on land with difficulty, their extremities being far better adapted to swimming than walking. Presently a noise is heard, and a huge animal advances, whose true nature and habits we are at first at a loss to understand. In its general proportions, it is far longer and also taller than the largest elephant; its body hangs down near the ground, but its legs are like the trunks of great forest trees, and its feet form an ample base for the vast columns which press upon them. Instead of long tusks, large grinding teeth, and a trunk like that of the elephant, this animal has an exceedingly elongated and narrow snout, armed throughout with ranges of sharp and strong knife-like teeth. The monster approaches, and trodden down with one of its feet, armed with powerful claws, or caught between its long and narrow jaws, our crocodile is devoured in an instant. But there is yet another scene for us to contemplate. Still remaining at no great distance from the shore, but advancing inland towards the forest, let us watch the golden beetles, and the beautiful dragon-flies and other insects, as they flit past in all the brilliancy and cheerfulness of luxuriant and untamed nature. The lofty forest trees, perhaps not much unlike some existing but southern pines, are woven together with thick underwood; and the open country, where it is not wooded, is brown with numerous ferns, still the preponderating vegetation, and distributed in extensive groups. Here and there a tree is seen, overturned and lying at its length upon the ground, preserving its shape, although thoroughly rotten, and serving as the retreat of the scorpion, the centipede, and many beetles. A few quadrupeds not larger than rats, but of marsupial structure, are distinguished at intervals, timid even in the absence of danger, and scarcely appearing from their shelter without great precaution. These feed upon the grubs and other insects living upon or burrowing into the ground. A strangely-formed animal, however, is perceived running along upon the ground; its general appearance in motion is that of a bird, but its body and long neck, its head and wings are not covered with feathers, but are either quite bare, or perhaps resplendent with glittering scales; its proportions are quite unlike those of any known animal; its head is enormously long, and like that of a crocodile; its neck long and outstretched, or thrown back on the body; its fore extremities have four free toes, but the fifth toe folded down on the body; its hind legs are short, and its feet perhaps webbed. This animal, running along upon the

ground, pursues and devours the little quadrupeds we have been watching, and then perhaps darts off towards the sea to feed upon the fishes, which its peculiar powers would enable it to take, either pouncing upon, and so transfixing the victim, or even occasionally wading or diving in search of prey. But we have not yet noticed the strangest phenomenon. This mailed reptile, four of its fingers still free, but the fifth opened out, and by a connecting membrane forming a wing of very large size, rises into the air, and flits about or hovers over head, realizing and even surpassing, in the conditions of its existence, the wildest mythological accounts of flying dragons which we read of, or those representations which we see pictured by the pencils of the Chinese. There is scarcely any freak of the imagination, however wild or vague, that does not seem surpassed by some reptilian reality during this remarkable period.—*Ansted's Picturesque Sketches of Creation.*

Recent Publications.

True Politeness: a Hand-Book of Etiquette for Ladies. By an American Lady. George S. Appleton: Philadelphia; D. Appleton & Co.: New York, 1848.

COMPARATIVELY few have any knowledge of one in a hundred of the laws which regulate civil society; and yet they never violate them. Common sense and ordinary notions of propriety, are better securities for good citizenship, than voluminous statute-books. Indeed, it would be impossible to make laws for every emergency that may arise from the natural working of our social system. So in the domain of Etiquette, there are innumerable little acts of common courtesy which men and women of ordinary intelligence need no books to teach them. Benevolence and self-respect will prompt to their performance when the exigency arrives. Books of Etiquette come in, not as being essential to the existence of good society and "true politeness," but as their expression. They are not the authors, but the indices of refinement. An influence is exerted by them, however, which is positive and good. Uniformity of custom is secured; and they are the written constitution of the Commonwealth of good-breeding, to which reference may be had in doubtful cases.

This tasteful little volume evinces more than ordinary care in its compilation. The portions entitled "Conversation—Tatling," contain hints, which, if universally regarded, would add materially to the happiness derived from social intercourse.

The Kedge Anchor; or, Young Sailor's Assistant. By William Brady, U.S.N. Third edition.

WE are glad to find the favorable opinion which "The Literary World" long ago expressed of this capital work, fully sustained by the call for a third edition. The work, which is illustrated with seventy engravings, supplies very minute information appertaining to the practical evolutions of modern seamanship, rigging, splicing blocks, purchases, &c., &c. It also furnishes tables of rigging, spars, sails, blocks, canvas, cordage, chain and hemp cables, hawsers, &c., relative to every class of vessels. It must be of great use to the young mariner—valuable for reference, to every seaman, and we commend it especially to yacht gentlemen who aspire to pass as authentic blue-jackets.

View of the Battle of Buena Vista.

MR. H. R. ROBINSON, Nassau street, has just published a magnificent colored lithograph of this great scene of American prowess, from a sketch taken on the spot by Major Eaton. The large size of the picture (32 by 24 inches), by allowing a minute representation of the physiognomy, so to speak, of the whole battle-ground, conveys a more vivid and distinct impression to

the mind of the beholder, than could be given in any verbal description. The position of our gallant little army—the charge of the Mexican forces—the peculiar character of the ground, broken up by deep, rocky ravines—and towering over all, the grouped summits of the majestic cordilleras, with a glimpse of the grand valley opening beyond—are represented with a force and faithfulness which those who were present can best appreciate, as the certificates of many, appended to the work, testify. The sublime scenery amid which this memorable battle was fought, will contribute to make it, in future time, an attractive theme for the poet and painter; and the pass of Buena Vista is no doubt destined to become as familiar in song and story, as the "Roncesvalles Strait."

Views of this character, combining topographical accuracy with historic interest, must find at this time an immediate popularity, and we shall look for Cerro Gordo, Churubusco, and Chapultepec, on the same magnificent scale.

Publishers' Circular.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Messrs. WILEY & PUTNAM have recently issued the "Compend of the Phreno-Philosophy of Human Nature," by J. Stanley Grimes, Counsellor at Law, Prof. of Medical Jurisprudence in the Castleton Medical College.

EDWARD DUNIGAN, New York, will soon publish the third and revised edition of the "Primacy of the Apostolic See," by Rt. Rev. F. P. Kenrick, D.D., Bishop of Philadelphia.

Messrs. LEAVITT, TROW & Co., New York, have just issued the first number of the "Cyclopedia of Moral and Religious Anecdotes," by Rev. K. Arvine, of New York; with an Introduction by Rev. George B. Cheever.

Messrs. HOGAN & THOMPSON, Philadelphia, have nearly ready the following works:—A History of the Second War between the United States and Great Britain, by Lewis Thompson; to which is added, Sketches of the Creek War, Blackhawk War, and the Seminole War in Florida, and the War in Mexico; a History of the War of the Revolution, with Sketches of the preceding Wars between the Colonies and French; with an Account of Shay's Rebellion in Massachusetts, and the Whiskey Insurrection in Pennsylvania, &c., &c.

Messrs. STANFORD & SWORDS have nearly ready for publication, the following works:—A History of the Second War between the United States and Great Britain, by Lewis Thompson; to which is added, Sketches of the Creek War, Blackhawk War, and the Seminole War in Florida, and the War in Mexico; a History of the War of the Revolution, with Sketches of the preceding Wars between the Colonies and French; with an Account of Shay's Rebellion in Massachusetts, and the Whiskey Insurrection in Pennsylvania, &c., &c.

Messrs. BAKER & SCRIBNER announce the following works as in press, and nearly ready for publication, "Life of Oliver Cromwell," by J. T. Headley. "The Czar, his Court, and People," by J. S. Maxwell, 2 vols. 12mo.

Also a new work on Astronomy by Prof. O. M. Mitchell, the distinguished director of the Cincinnati Observatory, which owes its existence to his untiring labors. "Lectures on Shakespeare," by H. A. Hudson, 2 vols. 12mo. The above constitute the brilliant articles which have lately appeared in the American Review, together with others which Mr. Hudson two or three winters since delivered as lectures to highly interested audiences in this and other cities.

Those who had the pleasure of listening to his powerful antitheses and discriminating criticisms, will doubtless be glad to learn that the author has been induced to give them to the public in the book form.

The same Publishers also announce "The Owl Creek Letters," by W., 1 vol. 12mo.

Messrs. D. APPLETON & Co. have just published, "A Digest of the Decisions of the Su-

preme Court of the United States, from its Organization to the Present time," by James P. Holcombe, editor of "Smith's Mercantile Law," &c., 1 vol. large 8vo. of 680 pages, price \$1.

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